Bengaluru Saturday, November 1, 2025 Pages 30 Vol 78 No 301 ₹8

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69-page promises include...

- Metro train services in 4 cities
- 7 expressways & modernisation of 3,600 km of rly tracks
- 1 factory in each dist and 10 industrial parks
- Free quality education from KG to PG
- 1 medical college in each district

1 crore jobs: NDA's big Bihar promise

Focus on women, youth to counter anti-incumbency

ABHAY KUMAR
PATNA

BJP president JP Nadda (C), Bihar CM Nitish Kumar and other leaders release the NDA's manifesto on Friday. PTI

The National Democratic Alliance on Friday released its manifesto for the Bihar Assembly election, promising a slew of populist measures, including creation of one crore jobs in the next five years, if voted to power. The manifesto was released four days before the campaign for the first phase of the polls comes to an end on November 4.

BIHAR VOTES

The ruling alliance presented a picture of unity while unveiling the 69-page manifesto, called 'Sankalp Patra'.

It was released here at a press conference attended by Chief Minister and JD(U) national president Nitish Kumar, Deputy CM Samrat Choudhary, BJP president JP Nadda, Union ministers Dharmendra Pradhan, Chirag Paswan (LJP-Ram Vilas) and Jitan Ram Manjhi (HAM), and former Union minister Upendra Kushwaha (Rashtriya Lok Morcha).

Aiming to counter anti-incumbency, the manifesto focuses on youth and women. The promised jobs, according to the NDA, will help check outward migration, a major poll issue.

Another major promise is the creation of one crore 'Lakhpati Didis' (women who earn minimum Rs 1 lakh annually).

"The NDA promises to build 50 lakh new pucca houses, free power up to 125 units to each household and free medical treatment up to Rs 5 lakh...," Nadda said.

▸ Bihar manifesto, Page 5

Took 'just 26 seconds': Cong mocks NDA

The Congress on Friday claimed that the NDA leaders wrapped up the release of their Bihar manifesto in "just 26 seconds" and didn't allow Chief Minister Nitish Kumar to speak at the event. The RJD said its opponents in the ruling alliance copied everything from the Mahagathbandhan's manifesto.
Details on Page 7

Question on DKS' 'Nov coronation' riles Siddaramaiah

BENGALURU, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah lost his cool on Friday when he was asked to comment on speculation that his deputy D K Shivakumar had fixed a date in November to take oath as the new head of the government.

Siddaramaiah became confrontational with reporters at Vidhana Soudha when pointed out that Shivakumar would take oath as the chief minister on November 21 or 26 according to a local media report.

"Who told you? Did Shivakumar tell you this?" Siddaramaiah asked, before walking away peeved.

The Siddaramaiah-led Congress government will complete two and a half years, the halfway mark in its tenure, on November 20.

It is being widely discussed in political circles that Shivakumar, who is also the state Congress chief, will move to stake claim on the CM's post after November 20 as per the rumoured power-sharing agreement with Siddaramaiah.

▸ Siddaramaiah, Page 5

My personal opinion is that RSS be banned: Kharge

Says Patel imposed ban on organisation in India's interest

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

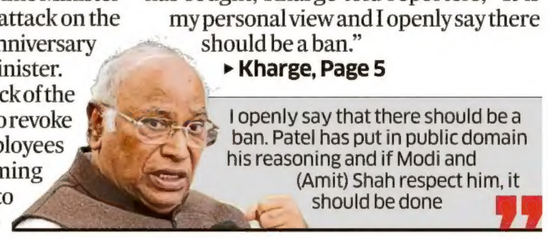
Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday said his personal opinion is that the RSS should be banned as most of the law and order problems in the country are arising because of the BJP-RSS, even as he likened the Sangh to snake venom.

Kharge extensively quoted Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's remarks against RSS and his decision to ban it after the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi as Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched an attack on the Congress on the 150th birth anniversary of the country's first home minister.

He also demanded a roll-back of the government's 2024 decision to revoke the ban on government employees joining RSS activities, claiming the move meant "disrespect" to Patel who had given "all reasons" for banning the outfit and warning that the BJP dispensation would be held responsible for the fallout of the move.

Asked if he would demand a ban on RSS like Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav has sought, Kharge told reporters, "It is my personal view and I openly say there should be a ban."

▸ Kharge, Page 5



Modi criticises Nehru over J&K

Paying tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at Ekta Nagar's "Statue of Unity" on the occasion of "Rashtriya Ekta Diwas" in Narmada district, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday criticised Jawaharlal Nehru for "not allowing Patel to unite the entire Kashmir".
Details on Page 10

60 minutes between life and death

A DH journalist goes incognito to observe what happens at the emergency wards of four government hospitals

The first 60 minutes – called the golden hour – after a serious medical event is critical for survival.

In this week's Saturday Story, a *DH* journalist went anonymously to the emergency wards of four government hospitals in Bengaluru. On paper, the city's underprivileged have access to free and subsidised medical care. But what is the ground reality?

The SATURDAY STORY

At the first hospital, an elderly man brought in his son who had attempted suicide. It took 50 minutes for a doctor to show up.

In the other hospitals, the response was the same. The urgency, which could make a difference between life and death, was missing.

The Supreme Court ruled that 'golden hour care' is a fundamental right. But is it accessible?

Full story, Page 15

Caste survey ends; 89% enumeration

BENGALURU, DHNS: The state government's social and educational survey, also known as caste census, concluded on Friday with an 89% enumeration, even as 4.22 lakh households refused to participate in the exercise.

Data from the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes showed that 6.13 crore of the 6.85 crore (89.48%) projected population of Karnataka, as per 2025 estimates, participated in the survey.

Ten districts recorded over 100% enumeration. However, the poor enumeration in Bengaluru has pulled down the average.
Details on Page 3D

Minor girl kills mom with boyfriend's help for opposing their relationship

Netravati

A minor girl allegedly murdered her mother with the help of her friends and later passed it off as a suicide after the deceased caught her daughter with her friend in their bedroom.

The deceased has been identified Netravati (35), resident of Maramma Circle in Subramanyapura police station limits. She was working as a loan recovery agent in a finance company.

P 3

Elephants kill 2 in Sringeri taluk; tiger mauls farmer in Mysuru district

Wild animal attacks claimed three lives in the state on Friday. While two people were killed after an elephant attacked them near Kerekatte in Sringeri taluk, a farmer was killed in the third tiger attack in a fortnight in Sargur taluk of Mysuru district. The elephant attack triggered angry protests.

3 hurt in rabid wolf attack, Page 5 P 5

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ನವ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಕ್ಕೆ
ಗ್ಯಾರಂಟಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಪ್ರಜ್ವಲಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ
೭೦ರ ದೀಪ
ಮಾಡೋಣ
ಕನ್ನಡ ಕಟ್ಟುವ ಸಂಕಲ್ಪ!

ರಾಜ್ಯೋತ್ಸವದ ಈ ದಿನ, ನಮ್ಮ ನಾಡಿನ ಇತಿಹಾಸ,
ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಮತ್ತು ವೈವಿಧ್ಯತೆಯನ್ನು ಮನದುಂಬಿ ಆಚರಿಸೋಣ.

ಕನ್ನಡ ಭಾಷೆ, ಕಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ನೆಲದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೆಮ್ಮೆ ಪಡುತ್ತಾ,
ಸಮೃದ್ಧ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಕ್ಕೆ ಕೈಜೋಡಿಸೋಣ.

ನಾಡಿನ ಸಮಸ್ತ ಜನತೆಗೆ
೭೦ನೇ ಕನ್ನಡ ರಾಜ್ಯೋತ್ಸವದ ಶುಭಾಶಯಗಳು

ಶಕ್ತಿ ಅನ್ನಭಾಗ್ಯ ಗೃಹ ಜ್ಯೋತಿ ಗೃಹಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಿ ಯುವನಿಧಿ

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ತಿ ಪಾಸ್ತಿ ರಕ್ಷಿಸುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಹಿಂಸೆಯನ್ನು ತ್ಯಜಿಸುವುದು - ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬ ಭಾರತೀಯನ ಸಂವಿಧಾನಬದ್ಧ ಮೂಲಭೂತ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ

CMofKarnataka https://dipr.karnataka.gov.in ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಾರ್ತೆ

THE GREAT TREATED WATER DILEMMA

City struggles to reuse water that can't be discharged

While the city receives 3,000 million litres of water every day from the Cauvery river, treated water is wasted without proper treatment, monitoring, and regulations for re-use

SHREE D N
BENGALURU, DHNS

An apartment in North Bengaluru is facing a problem: its sewage treatment plant (STP) breaks down periodically, and residents have to put up with stinking toilets when the faulty STP sends untreated water into the apartment's dual plumbing system.

This happens in many apartments, especially those that lack the space, willpower and leadership to handle water treatment in-house. The Karnataka government has mandated that every project with more than 120 units must treat its own sewage. The number was 50 or more apartments at one point, and most smaller apartments struggled to handle it.

A member of the association of an apartment in North Bengaluru explains how this happens.

"When a project comes up, the builder goes and submits the documents to the pollution control board. The board reviews the papers and grants permission. After the building is complete, the KSPCB grants consent for operation after inspecting the STP in a non-working condition, because not all units would have been sold by then.

"When more than 60-70 per cent of the units are sold, apartment associations are formed. The builders hand over the STP and wash their hands of the project. The residents struggle without knowing the technology and operational pitfalls," he says.

Two to three years down the line, the apartment associations realise that the STP does not have enough capacity. By then, they are left to deal with the situation on their own. Under-capacity STPs are one of the biggest problems plaguing water treatment in apartments, he adds.

Sharing of expenditure and availability of space become the next big problems to address if the association wants to upgrade the STP. Most builders do not support any such step. Associations are left in the lurch, having to find various water treatment consultants and conduct trial-and-error.

"When marketing projects, builders ignore STPs. They do not even know what technology they will use. But once the project is fully operational, STP becomes the most important part of the project," he adds. "There is no liability on the builder. The government should mandate a liability of 10 years on the builder as well."

He explains how the treated water is handled. "Treated water should not be let into stormwater drains or the ground according to the rules. There are only two options for extra treated water left after flushing and gardening: You either give it to someone who wants to take it, or discharge it to the ground or stormwater drain."

According to him, there is no reliable system for using treated water in construction. Some companies install treatment plants in communities and sell excess treated water, but they need takers, and the systems are yet to be developed.

Overcoming the problem: A positive story

Srinivasan Sekhar, a water consultant based in Bengaluru, who faced the same issue in his community, shares a success story: TZed Homes, a 4-acre villa community in Whitefield with 78 flats and 18 villas, faced similar problems: in 2008, the association was formed, the builder's maintenance period had ended, and the residents were left in a lurch.

They engaged an STP consultant and understood how an STP operates. A few residents took an active interest and built a robust system in which STP water is passed through many pre-filters, then to the Reverse Osmosis plant, which clears the borewell water for the community. The water is now used for drinking and cooking. "We have many prefilters and a UV filter to ensure that even if one of them does not function, others stand in and water quality does not get affected," he says.

If there is any issue with the water quality, people are asked to boil the water and use it, and the problem is quickly fixed. Chlorination is then done to clean the pipes. This happens rarely. The annual maintenance contract ensures weekly water quality checks.

"First use is for gardening, housekeeping, mopping the floors and car cleaning. The rest of it goes to the RO unit," he says. Maintenance is minimal; we only need to change the filter media periodically. A filter in the entrance of the STP collects any plastic or nonbiodegradable items, which are separated," Sekar adds.

Changing the mindset was a challenge, but the community accepted it when a few dedicated members bathed in the treated RO water output and drank it in front of everyone. The community does not need any water from outside, as it also has rainwater harvesting. This system in T-Zed Homes became operational in 2012. However, thirteen years later, TZed Homes remains the only community in Bengaluru to use treated water for daily household needs. "There were other builders and communities interested, but the interest waned easily. It is about the mindset," Sekar sighs.

When rigid mindsets and lack of training play spoilsport

Tarun Kumar, a STP consultant based in Whitefield, says a builder was interested in using treated water to drink. He built the infrastructure, but the resident community did not accept it due to a mindset issue.

"Three problems affect the treated water reuse in household needs: Technology has to be robust; It should be economical, and the mindset needs to be progressive," he observes.

Suhail Rahman, founder of a Bengaluru-based developer company, who tried to implement a system to use treated water for drinking, agrees that the main challenge is the psychological barrier to using recycled water for purposes involving skin contact.

"We have had a project running for the last five years. The RWA has discontinued tertiary treatment for this reason. Two more projects are being implemented," he adds.

"Technologies are available for really high-quality water. We need regulations to help overcome this barrier. Technologies that give real-time data on water quality parameters will bolster the confidence of the user," he adds.

"Running a conventional STP is highly technical. It requires a dedicated manpower round the clock. Pumps and motors break down periodically. In case of failure of the standby motors, the STP stops functioning, leading to a foul smell in the area," he explains the operational challenges in running conventional aerobic STPs.

Alternative technologies can be a solution to cost-conscious RWAs or builders, says Tarunkumar. He has developed a sewage treatment system that mimics a cow's stomach, where bacteria break down the sludge and clean the water. The space needed is double the regular STP, but the advantages are many, he adds.

Tarunkumar says his patented system, developed with IIT, Jammu, has zero maintenance cost, low maintenance cost, and zero electricity cost. "The sludge needs to be removed once every two years. This can result in huge savings," he adds.

A conventional STP can cost Rs 45,000 per kilolitre, while his method can cost Rs 60,000. However, later, operational expenses can go up upto Rs 30-50 per kilolitre, while his method costs Rs 2 per kilolitre, explains Tarunkumar, adding that the scope for savings post-installation is greater and that no regular maintenance is needed.

Other major problems

There is another major problem: Bengaluru lacks trained STP operators. The Environmental Management and Policy Research Institute conducts need-based training for STP operators if more than 15 people are interested. But the sector is not organised enough to conduct such workshops.

This lack of training and the unorganised nature of STP operations have resulted in manual scavenging and even deaths due to carbon monoxide poisoning, because standard operating procedures were non-existent and safety protocols were not followed. This has only been counterproductive to the cause, due to community residents' fear of the risky nature of STP operations.

The quality of the treated water is not uniform either. Various technologies operate in different ways, and some firms refuse to share their exact methods of treatment and operation. This results in non-uniform water quality. The KSPCB officials tasked with monitoring water quality are unable to do it periodically due to a shortage of human resources.

Where does the water go?

Satish Mallya, president of Bangalore Apartment Federation, says more than 60% of the treated water is available in every project. Flushing needs about 30%, and 5% for gardening and other needs; the rest of it is available, and no one knows what to do with it.

About 700 MLD water is available from private and public STPs, according to our research. The government now allows up upto 50% to be used outside the project, such as selling it to construction companies, data centres or IT parks for cooling solutions. However, no steps have been taken to make it happen," he adds.

"There are no dedicated pipelines laid or dedicated tankers provided to transport this water anywhere. The government has to educate, raise awareness, and create demand by mandating the use of treated water. We cannot do it; only the government has the power to do it. Someone has to create the market," he explains. "Safety standards and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) have to be created for treated water usage, as it has to be used immediately; it cannot be stored for long."

Now the government is trying to discharge some of the water to a few lakes. For example, a tender was floated in March 2025 to lay dedicated pipelines to the Chikkathogur and Begur lakes, but the project's status is unknown. BAF has suggested to the government that the water be used to clean BMTC and KSRTC buses and to water parks.

So where is the water going? Many who spoke to *DH* admit that it is going to stormwater drains because it is not prudent to leave the treated water to the BWSSB sewage line. Thus, while the city receives 3,000 million litres of water every day from the Cauvery, water is wasted without the proper treatment, monitoring, and regulations for use.

Feedback:
pointblank@ deccanherald.co.in

METRO

Two brothers drown in lake

BENGALURU, DHNS: Two brothers drowned after slipping into a lake at Visvesvaraya Layout under the Jnanabharathi police station limits on Thursday evening.

The victims are Sanjay (6) and Jagannath (10), students of a private school in Kengeri.

Around 8 pm, the brothers, along with another boy, went to play near the lake after returning from tuition. Sanjay and Jagannath accidentally fell into the water, while the third boy rushed home to alert their parents.

Locals and the parents managed to pull the boys out, but Sanjay had already died. Jagannath, who was rescued in a critical condition, was admitted to a hospital, where he succumbed early on Friday.

Their father, Subramanya, works as a mason, and their mother is employed with a private housekeeping firm.

Not just a fruit: Sapota's role in India's climate change battle

Found to sequester significant carbon

CHIRANJEEVI KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

As India races to build additional carbon sinks, scientists from the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research have highlighted the need to assess the carbon sequestration capacity of fruit plantations.

A recent study on sapota shows that farmers capture millions of tonnes of CO_2 while cultivating the humble fruit.

Published in 'Current Science', the study by AN Ganeshamurthy, Emeritus Scientist, ICAR-IIHR, estimates that sapota plantations in 12 states, including Karnataka, and two Union Territories have stored 10.92 million tonnes of carbon, equivalent to 40.1 million tonnes of CO_2.

AN GANESHAMURTHY
Emeritus Scientist, ICAR-IIHR

"Tropical fruits have a big market. Sapota, despite its storage limitations, is a crop hardier than mango. It comes up even on marginal lands and is an evergreen tree. Their role beyond agro economics should be recognised.

Researchers analysed data from these regions, assessing below-ground biomass of sapota trees, soil carbon, litter, weed biomass and other factors. The average carbon sequestered per tree ranged from 106.06 kg to 178.56 kg, with a national average of 143.5 kg per tree.

The orchards also enrich soil organic carbon (SOC). In agricultural lands, SOC levels fluctuate in the initial years before stabilising. Sapota orchards aged 25 years or more have SOC levels comparable to forests. Karnataka recorded the highest soil carbon stock in major sapota-growing regions at 77.14 tonnes per hectare.

In 2019, Ganeshamurthy and others estimated that India's mango orchards sequester 285 million tonnes of CO_2 over a 50-year lifespan, equivalent to the annual emissions of 60 million cars.

The study emphasised the importance of evaluating India's expanding perennial horticulture and its impact on carbon fluxes. Securing carbon credits for such plantations, it said, will benefit farmers and local communities.

"Tropical fruits have a big market. Sapota, despite its storage limitations, is a crop hardier than mango. It comes up even on marginal lands and is an evergreen tree. Their role beyond agro economics should be recognised."

While fruit orchards cannot be equated with forests, Ganeshamurthy stated that assessing their carbon-sequestering role will help India report more accurate carbon stock figures.

India's updated national contribution under the Paris Agreement targets creating 2.5–3 billion tonnes of CO_2-equivalent carbon sinks through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

A student conference on 'Gender Equality and Gender Socialisation' was organised by the student council, Parikrama-Student Welfare Committee and PoSH Cell of the Seshadripuram Institute of Commerce and Management on October 30. Satyamangala Mahadeva, Kavitha B and Sukanya PM conducted paper presentation sessions for PUC, PG and UG students, respectively. Theatre artiste Du Saraswathi; certified PoSH trainer Prathibha Rai; Wooday P Krishna, honorary general secretary, Seshadripuram Educational Trust; and principal Vidya Shivannanavar were present.

Ex-BU prof accused of threatening complainant

BENGALURU, DHNS: Former Bangalore University Professor BC Mylarappa was questioned by the Basaveshwaranagar police on Friday for allegedly threatening a woman who had accused him of sexual harassment.

Police said the woman had worked with Mylarappa at the university in 2022 and had then filed a sexual harassment complaint against him at the Kamakshipalya police station.

On October 9, she lodged another complaint, alleging that Mylarappa had been pressuring her to transfer ownership of a house to his name and had issued threats. Following this, he was summoned, and his statement was recorded. He later obtained bail from court.

When contacted, Mylarappa shared a copy of the bail order and claimed the allegations were false. "It is a conspiracy to damage my image. I will fight it legally," he said.

Geo-tagged selfies to track traffic cops on duty

AI-based real-time verification linked to Aadhaar ensures reliability

ASHWIN BM
BENGALURU, DHNS

Through the Astram app, officials can monitor on-duty personnel at designated junctions anytime.
DH FILE PHOTO

The Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) has deployed a sophisticated, geo-tagging e-attendance feature within its existing Astram mobile application to enhance on-spot presence and accountability of its police personnel across the city's network of junctions.

This move replaces older, less reliable biometric systems with a real-time, AI-driven verification mechanism linked directly to a personnel's Aadhaar identity.

The system mandates that personnel use their smartphones to clock in for their shifts. The process requires them to take a time stamped, geo-tagged selfie that is instantly cross referenced with their Aadhaar photograph using an AI tool, ensuring both unique identity and precise location.

The critical enforcement element is geofencing. This feature ensures the check-in is valid only if the officer is physically present within a tight, designated radius of 50 square meters of their assigned junctions.

Karthik Reddy, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic), pointed to *DH* the need for the technological addition. "The problem is we have over 1,000 junctions and two shifts, from 7 am to 2 pm and 2 pm to 10 pm. There was no mechanism to effectively monitor to confirm if the assigned personnel were on the spot," Reddy told *DH*.

The officer confirmed the Astram feature allows the department to monitor movement of the personnel within their assigned junction at any given time.

The system enforces strict reporting timelines: For the morning shift, the reporting window is 7 am to 7.15 am. Personnel reporting between 7.15 am and 7.30 am is marked as late, while any check-in after 7.30 am results in an automatic absence mark.

The traffic police chief says the results of the system are evident. With an average of 800 to 1,000 junction points assigned daily, the implementation of e-attendance has curbed habitual absenteeism, which had been a persistent operational issue and complaint faced by the BTP.

The department now registers a significantly lower figure, receiving only one to three absentees per day. Also, the AI-powered monitoring provides real-time alerts to department heads regarding any pattern of late arrivals or early departures, ensuring transparency and reducing malpractices on the ground.

Conman uses fake cop profile to swindle Rs 20,000

MANJUNATH SHETTAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

An unidentified fraudster created a fake Facebook account in the name of a Tilaknagar police inspector and cheated one of his friends of Rs 20,000 by offering to sell household furniture. Ironically, the inspector is now investigating his own case.

Inspector K Vishwanath, attached to the Tilaknagar police station, stated in his complaint that on October 29, a fake account named 'Vishwanatha PSI' was created on Facebook. The impersonator claimed that an assistant commandant with the CRPF, who was being transferred, wanted to sell his furniture, assuring buyers that all items were in good condition and reasonably priced.

Believing the post to be genuine, one of Vishwanath's friends transferred Rs 20,000 through UPI the same evening. However, a few others contacted the inspector directly to confirm the offer, which exposed the fraud.

Upon verification, Vishwanath found that no such post was made from his real account and that the fake profile had been created to dupe people.

Tilaknagar police are on the lookout for the accused.

Minor girl kills mother with help of boyfriend for opposing relationship

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 17-year-old girl and her boyfriend allegedly murdered her mother after she objected to their relationship, and later staged it as a suicide in the Subramanyapura police station limits.

The deceased, Netravati (35), a resident of Maramma Circle, worked as a loan recovery agent and was in a live-in relationship after her husband left her eight years ago, police said.

Police said the incident took place on October 25. The minors first strangled her and later hanged the body to make it appear as a suicide before fleeing.

Initially, the police registered a case of suicide. However, suspicion arose when Netravati's sister, Anita, filed a complaint alleging foul play after the girl went missing and failed to attend her mother's funeral.

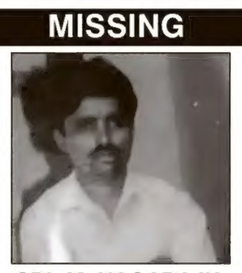
Investigations revealed that the girl and her boyfriend planned the murder after Netravati caught them together in her bedroom and warned them to end the relationship.

In her complaint, Anita stated that on October 27, around 1.30 pm, the girl returned to her grandmother's house in Kaggalipura and recounted that her four male friends had visited their home. When Netravati threatened to call the police, the boys allegedly strangled her with a towel, dragged her body into another room, and hanged her. The girl claimed they threatened her at knifepoint and fled.

Police said the girl was hiding at her boyfriend's relative's house after the crime.

Subramanyapura police have taken all five minors into custody and sent them to a juvenile home. Further investigations are under way.

MISSING



SRI. M. NAGARAJU
S/o Muttappa

Aged about 59 years, Height-5.5 Ft, Colour-Brown, Language-Kannada, this person went missing at #317C, near Venkateshwara Temple, Immadihalli, Whitefield, Bengaluru-560066, on 01/01/2014, in this regard, a complaint No.0514/2025 was filed with Whitefield Police Station, anyone finds this person request you take him to nearby Police Station or call the Mobile No.7676926278 immediately.

ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯ
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು

"ಕನ್ನಡ ನಾಡು ನುಡಿ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿಗಾಗಿ ಮಿಡಿದ, ಮಡಿದ, ಮೆರೆದ ಎಲ್ಲ ಮಹನೀಯರನ್ನು ಸ್ಮರಿಸೋಣ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಏಕೀಕರಣದ ರೂವಾರಿಗಳ ಆಶಯಗಳನ್ನು ಸಾಕಾರಗೊಳಿಸೋಣ, ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಸಾಧಿಸುವತ್ತ ಮುನ್ನಡೆಯೋಣ."

ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ.ಕೆ. ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಉಪ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ರಾಜ್ಯೋತ್ಸವ

ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಪ್ರದಾನ ಸಮಾರಂಭ ೨೦೨೫

ದಿನಾಂಕ : ೦೧-೧೧-೨೦೨೫ ಶನಿವಾರ, ಸಂಜೆ : ೬.೩೦ ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
ಸ್ಥಳ : ರವೀಂದ್ರ ಕಲಾಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ, ಜೆ.ಸಿ.ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ಘನ ಉಪಸ್ಥಿತಿ

ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ.ಕೆ. ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಉಪ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆ

ಶ್ರೀ ಶಿವರಾಜ ಎಸ್. ತಂಗಡಗಿ
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಹಾಗೂ ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸಚಿವರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅತಿಥಿಗಳು

ಶ್ರೀ ಉದಯ ಬಿ. ಗರುಡಾಚಾರ್
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಶಾಸಕರು
ಚಿಕ್ಕಪೇಟೆ ವಿಧಾನಸಭಾ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ

ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯ ಅವರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಹಾಗೂ ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸಚಿವರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಶಿವರಾಜ ಎಸ್. ತಂಗಡಗಿ ಅವರು ಸಮಾರಂಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿರುವುದು

ನಾಡಿನ ಸಮಸ್ತ ಜನತೆಗೆ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯೋತ್ಸವದ
ಶುಭಾಶಯಗಳು

ಸರ್ವರಿಗೂ ಆದರದ ಸ್ವಾಗತ

ಡಾ. ವೆಂಕಟೇಶ್ ಎಂ.ವಿ., ಭಾ.ಆ.ಸೇ
ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳು, ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ಕೆ.ಎಂ. ಗಾಯಿತ್ರಿ, ಭಾ.ಆ.ಸೇ
ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ನಮ್ಮ ವೈವಿಧ್ಯಮಯ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಂಪರೆಯನ್ನು ಗೌರವಿಸುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಕಾಪಾಡುವುದು ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬ ಭಾರತೀಯರ ಸಂವಿಧಾನಬದ್ಧ ಮೂಲಭೂತ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ.

ನುಡಿದಂತೆ ನಡೆದಿದ್ದೇವೆ...
ಶಕ್ತಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಬಸ್ ಪ್ರಯಾಣ ಉಚಿತ
ಗೃಹ ಜ್ಯೋತಿ ಪ್ರತಿ ಮನೆಗೆ 200 ಯೂನಿಟ್‌ವರೆಗೆ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಉಚಿತ
ಅನ್ನಭಾಗ್ಯ ಪ್ರತಿ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗೆ 10 kg
ಗೃಹಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಿ ₹2000
ಯುವನಿಧಿ ₹3000 | ₹1500

15-min rush hour frequency on Yellow Line from today

BENGALURU, DHNS

The 19.15-km RV Road–Bommasandra line, opened on August 11, has boosted daily ridership past a million. DH FILE

Train services on Namma Metro's Yellow Line will run every 15 minutes during the rush hour from Saturday onwards.

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) said it would induct a fifth trainset into passenger service on Kannada Rajyotsava, improving frequency from 19 minutes to 15 minutes.

The BMRCL defines the peak hour as the period from 8 am to noon and 4 pm to 9 pm.

However, only four trains will be in service during four hours in the afternoon, according to a senior BMRCL official.

"No train has been kept spare since the Yellow Line opened. Now that we have five trains, we will start keeping one on standby during the afternoon, when ridership is relatively low," the official told *DH*.

The six-coach train arrived from Bengal-based Titagarh Rail Systems Limited (TRSL) on September 30 and underwent a series of static and dynamic tests before being cleared for passenger service.

The induction was delayed because mainline tests had to be conducted only at night.

TRSL is making trains under a sub-contract with China's CRRC Nanjing Puzhen Co Ltd, which won a Rs 1,578-crore contract to deliver 36 trainsets for Namma Metro.

The BMRCL expects to receive a sixth train from TRSL by November-end, the official said, while seventh and eighth trains are in advanced stages of production after their bogies arrived from China by sea.

A bogie is an underframe connecting the superstructure of the coach. There are 12 bogies in a six-coach train, or two per coach. Each bogie weighs 7.5 tonnes.

The 19.15-km RV Road–Bommasandra metro line, opened on August 11, connects south and southeast Bengaluru via Silk Board and has boosted daily ridership past a million.

CM's deadline ends, but city still riddled with potholes

Officials say problems remain only in a few stretches

BENGALURU, DHNS

Though Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had set an October-end deadline for the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) to fill all potholes in the city, bad roads continue to trouble commuters.

In mid-September, after facing sharp criticism over the poor condition of the roads, the chief minister pulled up GBA officials and directed them to ensure all potholes were fixed before November.

However, many city roads remain riddled with potholes, offering little relief to motorists.

"They may have filled up some potholes here and there, but we hardly see any change. It is still a back-breaking journey for us since many potholes continue to trouble us," said Rakesh R, who commutes between Chamarajpet and Rajajinagar daily.

Several commuters also said the repair work was substandard.

"Many potholes are still as they were two months ago. Even those that have been filled are uneven and difficult to drive on," said Sushma B, a techie.

Pothole-riddled Anjanapura 80 Ft Road near Gottigere Lake, connecting Bannerghatta main Road, cries out for repair. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

Recent rains have made the situation worse.

Many citizens said they avoided using two-wheelers during rainy days for fear of hitting water-filled potholes.

"It is difficult to spot potholes when it rains, and the chances of hitting one and falling are high. My family insisted I take an auto or bus to work," said Sahana B, a resident of Rajajinagar.

GBA officials said they had accelerated pothole repair works and are expected to complete them soon.

"We have filled many potholes. However, there are problems at a few stretches, and we are tackling them now," said Maheshwar Rao, Chief Commissioner, GBA.

Charita Phaneendranath, a class 10 student at the Sir M Visvesvaraya Vidyaniketan School, Shettihalli, has been selected to represent India in swimming at the 3rd Asian Youth Games in Bahrain.

Encroachments cleared from railway land

BENGALURU, DHNS: Authorities on Friday removed decades-old encroachments from railway land to facilitate the Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project (BSRP) and the track-doubling work between Yeshwantpur and Hosur.

The clearance drive, conducted by the Bengaluru Railway Division, covered the stretch between Banaswadi and Hebbal.

During the operation, 512.25 square meters — 641.25 square meters including extension sheds — were reclaimed by demolishing 24 unauthorised structures, several of which were multi-storey buildings.

As part of the clearance drive, 24 unauthorised structures (some three-storey tall) were demolished. PHOTO: SWR

The eviction was carried out as per orders from the estate officer and the court. Police personnel were deployed to maintain law and order during the operation, the SWR said.

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

Rajyotsava award presentation: CM Siddaramaiah, DK Shivakumar, Shivaraj S Thangagi: Department of Kannada and Culture: Ravindra Kalakshetra, JC Road; 6.30 pm.

Flag hoisting and Rajyotsava message: CM Siddaramaiah, Basavaraj S Horatti, DK Shivakumar, UT Khader, S Madhu Bangarappa; Education Department, Kanteerava Outdoor Stadium; 9 am.

Kannada Youth Association: Flag hoisting; Rajendra Prasad, MC Narendra, Jagadeesh Reddy; Kannada Youth Association, H Siddaiah Road, Hombegowdanagar; 7.30 am.

Kannada Book Fair: Inauguration of the discount fair: Sudhamurthy, MS Narasimhamurthy, H Dundiraj, YV Gundu Rao: Sapna Book House, 3rd Main Road, Gandhinagar; 10 am.

5th Kannada Book Festival: Inauguration: Yaduveera Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wodeyar; R Balasubrahmanyam, Mallepuram G Venkatesh, MP Kumar; Rashtroththana Sahitya; from 11 am onwards.

CULTURAL

SKF Sports and Cultural Committee: GB Harish, K Venkatesh, M Satyananda, Puttanna Mulya: Chowdaiah Memorial Hall, Vaiyalikaval; 9 am.

32nd Annual Music Festival: JA Jayant (flute), L Ramakrishnan (violin), Arjun Ganesh (mridangam), Shashank Kaushik (ghata); Nadasurabhi, St John's Medical College Campus, Koramangala; 6 pm.

Documentary Drama: 'Annana Nenapu'; Hanu Ramasanjeev; Pravara Theatre: Cultural complex, Kalagrama, Mallathahalli; 7 pm.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Partly cloudy sky

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	29.0°C
Minimum	18.0°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	--
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	71%
Sunset (Nov 1)	5:54 pm
Sunrise (Nov 2)	6:13 am
Moonrise	1:57 pm
Moonset	1:03 am

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

WADIA INSTITUTE OF HIMALAYAN GEOLOGY
(An Autonomous Institution of Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India)
33, General Mahadeo Singh Road
DEHRA DUN - 248001 (Uttarakhand)

No. :Recruitment/Director/WIHG/2025-Estt./

Recruitment Notice

Application and/or nominations from Indian Nationals are invited for the post of Director, WIHG by 01.12.2025 (15.12.2025 for candidates in Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura Sikkim, union territory of Ladakh Division, Jammu and Kashmir State, Lahaul and Spiti District and Pangi Sub Division of Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep).

WIHG has been established by the Government of India as a specialized center of excellence for advance level of research in all aspects of geology and geodynamics of the Himalayas.

The Director will have the overall administrative control of the institute and will provide high-level leadership to the Institute.

Qualification

Essential: Ph.D. in Sciences related to Earth System and experiences as mentioned in the detailed Advertisement available at WIHG's website.

Desirable:

i. Original published work of high standard
ii. Evidence of high professional eminence by way of recognitions like fellowships of academies, national/international awards in science etc.
iii. Demonstrated evidence through scientific output in area of Himalayan Geosciences.

Mode of Recruitment: Direct Recruitment/Deputation, including short-terms contract/re-employment.

Tenure: 3 to 5 years or on attaining the age of superannuation as per Govt. of India rules (60 years at present), whichever is earlier.

Age limit: For Direct Recruitment: Not exceeding 56 years as on 01.07.2025.

For Deputation including short-term contract: Not exceeding 58 years as on the closing date of receipt of applications.

Scale of Pay: Pay Level-15 HAG Scale plus admissible allowances as per Central Government Rules.

Mode of Application/Nominations: The detailed advertisement for the post, format of applications and other details are available on the website: **www.wihg.res.in**

Late delayed applications/nominations will not be considered.

Sd/-
REGISTRAR,
WIHG

CBC 36122/12/0003/2526

JANATHA SEVA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,
ESTD:1969
No. 24, Suvarna Bhavana, 1st Main Road, Hampinagara, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560104.
Phone No.: 23300497, 41159606, 23359600 Email: jscbinfo@jscbl.com

FOR KIND ATTENTION OF OUR ESTEEMED CUSTOMERS

NOTICE ON KNOW YOUR CUSTOMERS (KYC) GUIDELINES.

1. As per RBI guidelines on KYC norms, all the accounts of the Members and Customers of the bank should be KYC compliant, which means that the bank should know/understand their customers, for which the documents that establish proof of identity and proof of address along with a recent photograph of the customers are to be obtained by the bank.
Hence all the customers of "Janatha Seva Co-operative Bank Ltd"., are requested to submit their currently valid KYC documents for proof of identity and proof of address (For example-Passport, Driving License, Voters ID card, Aadhar Card, Pan card etc) along with duly filled "KYC updation Form" to their respective branch immediately. Kindly note that the Bank may impose certain restrictions on transactions in the Non-KYC complaint accounts in the interest of all concerned and in line with regulatory guidelines.
2. Members and customers should ensure that the nominee is registered for all the accounts held by them at **"Janatha Seva Co-operative Bank Ltd".**,
A list of Non-KYC complaint accounts, In-operative accounts, DEAF accounts "KYC updation Form" and "Nominee Registration Form" is available on our bank's **website www.jscbl.bank.in.**

For any queries or clarification, you may contact your nearest branch.

Date : 31.10.2025
Place : Bangalore

Sd/- Chief Executive Officer
Janatha Seva Co-Op Bank Ltd.,

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Follow us on @SCRailwayindia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

TENDER NOTICE No.106_ DRM_W_HYB_25 dt. 30/10/2025 PUB/1356

On behalf of the President of India, Divisional Railway Manager/ Works, Hyderabad Division, South Central Railway, Secunderabad invites Open Tenders for the following works through **e-procurement up to 15.00 hours of 24/11/2025.**

Tender No.: 106_DRM_W_HYB_25, **Name of the work:** SC-DHNE Section: (DEN/LINES/HYB): Provision of Safety Fencing / Boundary wall along the track for speed 130 kmph and above using NHAI anti-crash Barrier / W Beam for 76.20 Km fencing length., **Approx Value (Rs.):** 25,75,24,599.00, **EMD (Rs.):** 14,37,600.00

For further details visit the website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr. DEN/Co-ord/ Hyderabad

E - Tender Notice No.GNT/SG/ 36/358, Dated: 28.10.2025 PUB/1359

The undersigned invites e-tenders for the works mentioned below up to **15:00 hrs of 19.11.2025.**

ID. No. 358, **Name of the work:** Telecom arrangements in connection with Provision of Safety Fencing/Boundary wall for 130kmph using NHAI anti-crash barrier / W-beam steel fencing of 348.25 Kms at various locations (TEL-VJA, VJA-GNT, TEL-GNT, PGDP-GNT, GNT-NDKD & PGDP-NDKD) over Guntur Division., **Advertised Tender Value (Rs.):** 98,09,596.98, **E.M.D/Bid-security (Rs.):** 1,96,200.00, **Cost of Tender Document (Rs.):** NIL

1. If the date of opening of tenders happens to be declared holiday at later date, the tenders will be opened on the next working day at the stipulated time.

2. Last dates for online submission of E-bids are **19.11.2025 up to 15:00 hrs.** For detailed information logon to our website at **www.ireps.gov.in.**

3. Any further communication/ corrigendum shall only be intimated through E-portal **www.ireps.gov.in.**

Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/ Guntur

A1716

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at http://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DIVISION
TENDER NOTICE

Divisional Railway Manager (Mechanical), Southern Railway, Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 014 for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tender for the under mentioned work.

For other details, the tenderers are advised to refer the detailed tender on the below mentioned website.

Sl. No.	Details	Description
1	**GeM Bid No. & Date**	**GEM/2025/B/6812800 Dated: 28.10.2025**
2	**Name of work:** Sweeping Watering & Toilet Cleaning (SWTC) of PFTR trains at Alappuzha (ALLP), Thrissur (TCR) & Guruvayoor (GUV) Railway Stations & Disposal of garbage generated from coach cleaning at ALLP, TCR, GUV and from pit & yard cleaning at ALLP for a period of 4 years.	
3	Advertised value	₹ **7,20,44,412.21**
4	EMD	₹ **5,10,300/-**
5	Tender closing date & time	**18.11.2025, 17.00 Hrs.**
6	Website particulars	**https://www.gem.gov.in**

The firms registered in GeM portal are only eligible to participate in this tender. For details of bid submission, please refer website portal **"https://www.gem.gov.in".**
For details of scope of work, approximate value of tender, location and other documents, please refer website portal **"https://www.gem.gov.in"**
Note: It is the responsibility of the tenderers to check any corrigendum is issued for any correction; deletion or modifications uploaded subsequently in the website and the same shall be taken into account while uploading the tender. For further details please visit website at **"https://www.gem.gov.in".**

Divisional Railway Manager (Mechanical), Thiruvananthapuram-695 014

Government of JHARKHAND
(Department of Forest, Environment & Climate Change)

TENDER NOTICE

RFP No. – 03/2025

Tender in three parts i.e. Pre-qualification (Part-I), Technical (Part-II) and Financial (Part – III) is invited from reputed, capable, experienced and financially sound firm for the following works:

Name of Work	**Selection of a Technical Agency for Scoping, Identification, and Assessment of Carbon Credit Opportunities in Nature Based Solutions (NBS) and Non Nature Based Solutions (Non-NBS) Sectors in Jharkhand.**
Period of Contract	Six Month
Minimum average annual turnover during last three years.	Rs. 20 Lakhs from consulting business in India.
Tender fee	Rs. 5,000.00
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 80,000.00
Start Date & Time of Download the Tender Documents	31.10.2025..... at 03:00 PM
Date of Pre-bid meeting	21.11.2025..... at 11.30 AM
Date of uploading of pre-bid queries	22.11.2025.....at 03.30 PM
End date and time of Submission of BID	28.11.2025 ..... at 01.00 PM
Bid opening date for technical part	01.12.2025.....at 03.00 PM
Bid opening date for price part	Will be communicated later
Address for communication	Additional PCCF, CAMPA, Jharkhand Van Bhawan, Doranda, Ranchi, Jharkhand-834002 apccf-campa@gov.in

1. Tender document and BOQ including terms & conditions, tender specification can be downloaded from website https://forest.jharkhand.gov.in. Any details required in this regard can also be had from the office of the undersigned (APCCF, CAMPA, Jharkhand Ranchi) during office hours.
2. The bids will be received at the office of Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, CAMPA, Jharkhand, Ranchi.
3. No claim shall be entertained on account of disruption of internet services being used by bidders. Bidders are advised to submit their bids well in advance to avoid last minute technical snag.

Sd/-
Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, CAMPA, Jharkhand, Ranchi

PR 364921 (Forest, Environment and Climate Changes) 25-26 (D)

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
CHENNAI DIVISION
Tender No. M-TRD-29-I-OT-2025-26-19, Dated: 29.10.2025

For and on behalf of the President of India, the Divisional Railway Manager / Traction Distribution Branch, Chennai Division, Southern Railway, Chennai - 3, invites online tender from the experienced Contractors for the following works. For further details, please refer to **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sl. No.	Tender No. / Name of the Work	Value (₹)	Closing Date / Time
	Tender No. M-TRD-29-I-OT-2025-26-19		
1	Modification to existing OHE arrangements in connection with Removal of non standard layout and Provision of Additional loop line on down direction at Veppagunta (VGA) in AJJ-RU Section of Chennai Division	₹ 11419011.55	19.11.2025 at 15:00 hrs

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer / Traction Distribution / Chennai-3

SELECTION OF AGENCY FOR SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGEMENT, ELECTRONIC MEDIA MANAGEMENT, PRINT MEDIA MANAGEMENT ALONG WITH PREPARATION OF NEWS CLIPPING PADS, ETC.

Applications are invited from Agencies for **empanelment in South Eastern Railway for Public Relations activities and allied works.** The application form can be downloaded from the website **www.ser.indianrailways.gov.in (Department -> Public Relations -> SELECTION OF AGENCY FOR SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGEMENT AND MEDIA ANALYSIS SERVICES FOR SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY FOR TWO YEARS) from 01st November, 2025 till 12.00 hrs. of 21st November, 2025.** All other relevant details and eligibility criteria are also available in the aforesaid websites. The cost of the application form is Rs. 5,900/- (non-refundable) (Rs. 5,000/-+18% GST Rs. 900/-) to be paid either by Demand Draft, drawn in favour of "FA & CAO, South Eastern Railway" payable at Kolkata or can be deposited in cash to the Chief Cashier, South Eastern Railway, Garden Reach. Demand Draft/Money receipt for the cost of the application form is to be submitted separately at the time of submission of the application. The duly filled in application form including all relevant self-attested documents are to be dropped/submitted in a Sealed Envelope in a box kept at the Office of the **Chief Public Relations Officer, 11, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata 700043, available on all working days from 11.00 hrs. to 16.00 hrs. from 3rd November, 2025 to 12.00 hrs. of 21st November, 2025. The date and time of opening of application forms is 15:00 hrs. of 21st November, 2025.** No application will be entertained after the date and time specified above.

(PR-789) Chief Public Relations Officer

South Eastern Railway
We serve with a smile

CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD OVER BRIDGE

Tender Notice No. CPM-GSU-MLG-ROB-2025-09 dated: 28-10-2025 E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Tender No. CPM-GSU-MLG-ROB-2025-09. Name of work:** Construction of Road over Bridge in lieu of Level Crossing No. NC-5 (Manned) at Km 7/9-8/0 between station Rangapani-New Jalpaiguri in New Jalpaiguri-Aluabari Section. **Approx. Value:** ₹62,77,89,578.39/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 32,89,000/-. **Date & Time of Closing of Tender:** At **15.00** hrs. & **opening at 15.30 hrs.** on **21-11-2025.** The complete information of above e-tender will be available in website **www.ireps.gov.in**

CPM/GS/Maligaon
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

ELECTRICAL WORKS & PROVISION OF 750V POWER SUPPLY AT LUMDING DIVISION

E-Tender Notice No. Sr.DEE/ LMG/26 of 2025-26 dated: 29-10-2025 E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **SN.1. Tender No. EL/ LM/25-26/21. Name of work:** At Kamakhya, Guwahati: Electrical work for augmentation of 750V supply for maintenance of LHB rakes at sickline and pitline. **Tender Value:** ₹1,88,63,963.76/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,44,300/-. **SN.2. Tender No. EL/ LM/25-26/24. Name of work:** i) Provision of 750V power supply for maintenance of HOG coaches in washing/sick lines of Silchar coaching depot. ii) At Silchar: Up-gradation of infrastructure facilities for LHB maintenance at coaching depot, Silchar (Electrical portion). **Tender Value:** ₹91,73,174.87/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 1,83,500/-.**Date & Time of Closing of Tender:** At **11.00** hrs. & **opening at 11.30 hrs.** on **20-11-2025.** The complete information of above e-tender will be available in website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr. DEE (G & Chg), Lumding
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
AMOC OF BIO-TOILETS

Tender Notice No. : GEM/2025/ B/6789797 dated 28.10.2025

DRM (M)'s office, Central Railway, Solapur on behalf of the President of India invites sealed tender from the reputed firms/contractors for the following work. **Name of Work with its locality :** Annual Maintenance & Operation Contract (AMOC) of BIO-TOILETS in the Coaches of Solapur Division. **System of tendering :** Two Packet system. **Approximate Cost of work :** Rs. 2,34,48,843.18/- **Cost of the Tender form :** NIL. **Address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased :** DRM(M)'s office, Central Railway, Solapur. **Earnest money to be deposited :** Rs. 2,67,250/- **Completion period of the work :** 31 Months. **Last date & Time for submission of tender :** 18.11.2025 Time 13:00. **Date & time of opening of tender :** 18.11.2025 Time 13:30. **Website particulars & Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen : www.GeM.gov.in**

Sr. DME/Solapur 72

खतरनाक व विस्फोटक सामान के साथ यात्रा करना दंडनीय अपराध है

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

For on behalf of the President of India, the Medical Director/Central Hospital, South Eastern Railway, Garden Reach, Kolkata-700043 invites E-tender for the following works before 15.00 hrs. on the date mentioned against items and will be opened at 15.30 hrs. : Tender No. : **MD-CH-Eye-OT-3205; Description of Works** : 'Upgraded Modular Opthalamic Operation Theatre at Central Hospital /SER /Garden Reach; **Tender Value** : ₹ 4,48,90,324.64; **Earnest Money :** ₹ 3,74,500.00; Cost of Tender document : ₹ 0.00; **Completion period of the work :** 04 (Four) months; **Date of opening :** 24.11.2025. Any change in tender schedule, corrigendum, amendment, if any shall be available on the E-tender portal only and same will not be publish in the newspaper. Interested Tenderers may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full Details / Description specification of the Tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these works will be accepted. **N. B.:** Prospective Bidders may regular visit **www.ireps.gov.in** to participate in all tenders. **(PR-785)**

Department of Mines & Geology
Directorate of Geology,
Government of Jharkhand
Short Tender Notice-03/2025-26

S. No.	Particulars	Information
1.	**Name ofwork**	Undertaking Photography and Videography of the unique Geological, Mineral, Mining and related features of the Jharkhand State for the creation of a high-quality visual archive and an informative documentary film of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand.
2.	**Contact Person and Address for Communication**	Director, Geology; Directorate of Geology, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Jharkhand; Engineers' Hostel No-2, 2nd Floor, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004; E-mail id: dir-geology@jharkhandmail.gov.in
3.	**Cost of Tender Documents**	The Tender document can be downloaded from *www.jharkhand.gov.in* upon payment of the cost (***non-refundable***) of TenderDocument of **Rs. 5000.00 (Five Thousand)** only.The tender document feewill be submitted online through official website www.jharkhandminerals.gov.in ➤ Other & Services ➤ e Payment ➤ Payment office (Directorate of Geology) ➤ Head of Payment (Cost of Tender Document) ➤ Description ➤ Type of Depositor (Other) ➤ District Name (Directorate of Geology) ➤ DDO Code (PRJOTH002).
4.	**Validity of the Rate/Proposal Offered by the Tenderers**	01 (One) year from the date of issue of the Work Order.
5.	**Tender reference number along with its publication date**	03/2025-26, dated: 31.10.2025
6.	**Last date of submission of Bids/Tender**	14.11.2025 till 01:00 PM
7.	**Bid/Tender opening date**	14.11.2025 up to 03:30 PM.
8.	**Period of issue of Tender document**	31.10.2025 to 14.11.2025
9.	**Mode of Bid submission**	The bid must be submitted through the **Speed post/Registered post/by hand** in a sealed envelope clearly mentioning the tender reference number and the subject matter on the sealed envelope.
10.	**Address of Bid submission**	Directorate of Geology, Engineers' Hostel No-2, 2nd Floor, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand, PIN-834004
11.	**Helpline No.**	0651-3519388

Sd/-
Director, Geology
Directorate of Geology, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Jharkhand

PR 364970 Mines and Geology(25-26)D

LOOKING TO BUILD, BUY OR SELL A PROPERTY Please refer Classifieds on Sunday

छत्तीसगढ़ शासन | छत्तीसगढ़ रजत महोत्सव 25 वर्षों का उत्सव वर्षों का संकल्प | छत्तीसगढ़ राज्योत्सव

Chhattisgarh FOUNDATION DAY & Rajat Mahotsav

In the esteemed presence of

Hon'ble Prime Minister

SHRI NARENDRA MODI JI

development projects worth

Approx. ₹14,300 Crore

01 November 2025

Rajyotsav Sthal
Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar, Chhattisgarh

spanning Road Infrastructure, Energy, Industry, Housing, Rural Development and the Health Sector — will be Inaugurated, Dedicated to the Nation and Foundation Stones laid, alongside the ceremonial Griha Pravesh.

Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh Memorial & Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum

₹52 Crore

Inauguration

Chhattisgarh's New Vidhan Sabha Bhawan

₹324.93 Crore

Griha Pravesh and Installment Release ₹1,200 Crore

- Griha Pravesh of **3.51 Lakh** 'Pucca Awaas' constructed under PMAY-G and distribution of **Khushiyon Ki Chaabi**
- Release of financial **assistance instalments** to **3 Lakh** beneficiaries

Foundation Stone laying ₹7,459 Crore

- **New smart industrial** areas in Janjgir-Champa and Rajnandgaon
- **Pharmaceutical Park** in Nava raipur
- Working **women's hostel** in Koni and Uslapur villages (Bilaspur)
- **Government Medical College** building in Manendragarh, kabirdham, Janjgir-Champa and Geedam (Dantewada)
- **Government Ayurveda College** and **Hospital building** in Bilaspur
- Construction and Upgradation works of **3 National Highways** (NH-130D) and Pathalgaon-Kunkuri-CG/JH Border **Four Lane Greenfield** National Highway
- **220 kV power substation** in Kanker and **132 kV power substation** in Balodabazar-Bhatapara
- Infrastructure **Power Work** under **RDSS Scheme**

Inauguration ₹3,250 Crore

- **7 EHV substations, 400 kV** in Mungeli, **220 kV** in Rajim (Gariyaband) and Patan (Durg), **132 kV** in Raipur, Bemetara, Bilaspur and Koriya
- **33 kV substation** in Sukma and Bastar
- Chhattisgarh and Odisha Section(489 km) of the **Nagpur–Jharsuguda Pipeline –(GAIL)**
- New **Petroleum Oil Depot (HPCL)**
- **Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme** in **12 blocks** across **9 districts**
- Inter-regional **ER–WR Interconnection Transmission Project (POWERGRID)**

Dedicating to Nation ₹1,979 Crore

- New **11 kV** and **LT lines, overloaded 11 kV feeders and transformers** in various districts
- Conversion of bare **conductors** into **AB cables**
- Construction of **2-lane paved shoulder road** on **National Highway-130C** from Madangmuda–Devbhog up to the Odisha border

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S-45741/21

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Midway through academic year, 984 schools to switch to English medium

BENGALURU, DHNS

Although half of the current academic year is over, the Department of School Education and Literacy has allowed 984 government to switch to English as the medium of instruction in place of Kannada, or other languages.

Of the 984 schools where English will now be the medium of instruction, 894 are in Bengaluru Rural district. Of these, 237 are in Nelamangala taluk while the rest are in Doddaballapur, Devanahalli and Hoskote taluks..

The department's order attributed the decision to growing demand from politicians who are aggressively pushing the bilingual project. "The schools will have to ensure sufficient resources locally. The department will not be responsible for it," said a senior official in the Department of School Education and Literacy.

The official said that teachers who had enrolled in the English Medium Teachers' Induction Programme could be enlisted to teach English-medium classes. Furthermore, taking cognisance of the rising demand for English, the department has decided to increase the class strength, said the official, expressing hope for increased enrolment for all classes in the 2026-27 academic year.

The medium of instruction will change for all classes at these schools. Teachers, however, felt that the department would have been better advised to wait till the conclusion of the current academic year.

"There are hardly four months left in the current academic year. They should have allowed the schools to switch to English from the 2026-27 academic year. Both teachers and students will find it tough to switch to English-medium midway through the academic year," said a senior teacher at a government school in Bengaluru Rural.

Tunnel Road: Will Tejasvi Surya contradict Nitin Gadkari, asks MLA

BJP does not want any infra in Bengaluru: Rizwan

BENGALURU, DHNS:

Shivajinagar Congress MLA Rizwan Arshad on Friday said Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari had backed the idea of a tunnel road to decongest Bengaluru, and criticised BJP MP Tejasvi Surya for opposing the project.

"As recently as April this year, Gadkari recommended tunnel roads and triple-layered flyovers. So, this tunnel road project is being done as per his recommendation. If Surya is more intelligent and knowledgeable than Gadkari, let him say that the union minister is wrong," Arshad said at a news conference.

"The BJP does not want any change or infrastructure in Bengaluru. The BJP opposed a flyover our government wanted to build to decongest Hebbal. We dropped it. But when BJP came to power, it did nothing to solve the problem. Even today, there's congestion at Hebbal," Arshad said. "When will BJP join hands with the government to develop Bengaluru?"

Rizwan Arshad, MLA

Arshad countered Surya's charge that the Congress government was neglecting public transport. "Thanks to the Shakti scheme, the BMTC is offering 48 lakh daily trips. This number was 33 lakh when BJP was in power," he said. "During BJP, metro ridership was 6 lakh. Today, it's 10 lakh."

Arshad also said that his government is procuring 4,500 buses, which will get added to the existing fleet of 7,000. "Also under our government, we've provided metro connectivity to Whitefield and Electronics City," he said.

The MLA asked Surya why he did not raise these issues when the BJP was in power in the state. "When the BJP was in power, the discussion was about puncturewallahs, halal, who should wear what, whom should people marry and so on," Arshad said. "I'm happy that Surya, at least now, is speaking about development instead of his resorting to his toxic communal agenda," he said.

Personal remark insult to youth: MP tells DKS

Hitting back at Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar over his recent comment that Tejasvi Surya was "childish" and "waste material," the Bangalore South BJP Lok Sabha member on Friday said that making personal remark against him is nothing but insult to youth of Bengaluru as well as India, reports DHNS from New Delhi.

"You are calling me childish and waste material. You are making personal attack on me but not answering the issues raised by me on tunnel road project. Sir, you are being misguided by a people surrounding by you. There are several flaws in the Detailed Project Report prepared for tunnel road project. Please consult transport experts like professors in IISc or any other urban affairs experts. All experts are opposing the project," Surya told media persons in New Delhi.

"Young people like me are future of the Bengaluru as well as the country. Don't ignore their suggestion. Youth only will build the future Bengaluru. The flawed idea of tunnel road will be biggest disaster," Surya said. He also accused DKS of promoting an "ageist mindset".

"You may have rejected my idea (about pushing Bengaluru residents to using public transport) but now you are resorting to name-calling?" Surya said.

CIVIC-Bangalore's report card: Govt fulfilled only 6.7% of manifesto promises

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Congress-led state government, completing two years in office, has received a mixed bag of assessments from CIVIC-Bangalore, which released its 'Citizens' Review' in Bengaluru on Friday.

The review, based on a Manifesto Report Card and a Sectoral Review, highlights a stark contrast between the successful rollout of the "five guarantees" and significant lags across other crucial governance sectors.

Dignitaries release a report card titled 'Our Government, Our Report Card' brought out by CIVIC-Bangalore on Friday.

The report card, which analysed the status of 134 manifesto promises using RTI responses and public data, concluded that the incumbent party has an overall 6.7% fulfilment rate. This figure is almost entirely driven by the 100% fulfilment of the five guarantee schemes.

Excluding the guarantees, the fulfilment rate plummets to a mere 3.1% across the remaining seven key domains, including mining, forests and environment protection, education, health, Namma Bengaluru, urban development, administration and governance, guarantee schemes and the unorganised sector.

The analysis has revealed that "No Work Has Started" on a majority of promises (54.5%), with the urban development sector faring the worst at 70% of promises not started. Health and administration, and governance followed closely at 64.3% each.

Key promises stalled include the regularisation of Pourakarmikas (in progress) and setting a strict timeline for local body elections (not started). Two promises, completing pending metro projects and filling teacher vacancies within one year, were marked as failed.

The sectoral review painted a complex picture, noting commendable welfare steps like extended school nutrition programs and proactive drought relief. However, these are often undermined by systemic failures.

In Education, over 62,000 teacher vacancies remain unfilled, and expenditure lags below the national average. The Public Health sector is described as a "piecemeal" approach, with overall allocation remaining low at about 4%, raising concerns that a growing trend of privatisation is threatening universal healthcare.

Regarding Bengaluru, the report slammed the "Undemocratic, Unplanned, Unsustainable" governance, criticising the delayed municipal elections and the unconstitutional Greater Bengaluru Governance Act (GBGA).

The organisation noted that the government's land use policies in Agriculture and its repeated granting of environmental clearances for infrastructure in protected areas indicate a model that "systematically disregards environmental safeguards."

The panel pointed to the revenue deficit crisis, where the state has shifted to a revenue deficit for three consecutive years since the guarantees were introduced, meaning it is borrowing money to cover regular expenses (like subsidies), which is considered financially unsustainable.

Breaching fiscal limits

The state is dangerously close to or is hitting the limits set by the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, with debt liabilities at 24.9% of the GSDP (against a 25% limit) and the Revenue Deficit at 0.9% (ideally should be zero).

The review panel, presided over by senior retd IAS Officer T R Raghunandan, saw spirited responses from political party spokespersons and civil society experts, like A Krishna Prasanth, A R Vasavi, Kathyayini Chamaraj and others.

AI: Boon, threat, or both? Experts weigh in

BENGALURU, DHNS: A panel of AI scholars and public technologists discussed the dilemmas and possibilities of regenerative AI at the 'Our Digital Futures Fest' on Friday evening.

Organised by IT for Change, a Bengaluru-based non-profit working on digital justice, the week-long event is part of its 25-year celebrations.

The panel discussion, titled 'Regen AI Futures: Dimensions, Dilemmas and Directions', featured Brian Chen, Policy Director, Data & Society; José Renato Laranjeira de Pereira, Sustainable AI Lab, Universität Bonn; Sabina Dewan, Founder and Executive Director, Just Jobs Network; and Rahul Poruri of FOSS United.

It was moderated by Anita Gurumurthy, Founding Member and Executive Director of IT for Change. The speakers underscored the need for stronger AI regulation.

Sabina highlighted the urgency of labour protection and reforms in education and skill systems. "We need to build social architecture that works. Online biases are replicating offline biases," she said.

The discussion also examined the impact of AI on global education and the workforce.

"Generative AI has shifted the dynamics between problem finders and implementers. Many now believe they can do everything themselves, but lack the experience to judge if their solutions are right," said Poruri.

Agreeing with Denmark's move to ban social media for children aged below 16, Sabina warned: "The harm is too high. We are creating generations that have lost the ability to think and problem-solve. It is dangerous."

Anita said Gen AI, which learns from vast data to create new content, has become a decisive yet troubling part of the tech revolution.

"It comes with a huge, invisible water and energy footprint and exploitative data labour from the global South. We seem to be coming full circle to another colonial order, without real benefits for humanity," she said.

IISc is Centre of Excellence under Critical Minerals Mission

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Ministry of Mines, Government of India, has recognised the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, as one of the Centres of Excellence (CoE) under the National Critical Minerals Mission (NCMM). Launched with a budget of Rs 16,300 crore, the mission aims to strengthen India's self-reliance in critical minerals vital for clean energy, defence, and advanced technology sectors.

The newly established CoE at IISc will set up an Integrated Critical Minerals Research and Development Facility covering the entire value chain right from exploration and extraction to processing and recycling. It will design modular pilot-scale plants using indigenous process and equipment technologies to reduce import dependence and drive sustainable growth.

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Commissioner of Police, Mangaluru City, Mangaluru. Ph: PH: 0824-2220801, 2220810
NO:STS-1/55/COP/2025-26-3 Date: 31-10-2025

E-Procurement Notice

Tender has been invited in "Two Cover System" as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** for supply of ANPR & CCTV Cameras to Mangaluru City Police Commissionerate.
Tender No: **KSP/2025-26/IND0360, Description of Tender:** Supply, installation and maintenance of ANPR cameras & CCTV Cameras along with related softwares & sub systems to Mangaluru City Police Commissionerate. Last date for Bid submission: **13-11-2025, 17-00 Hrs.**
In order to participate in e-procurement platform all the intended tenderers have to register in the e-procurement portal. It is mandatory for tenderers to register in e-procurement platform. For more information please visit **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or call **0824-2220810.**

Sd/- Chairman
Tender Inviting Authority and Commissioner of Police Mangaluru City, Mangaluru
DIPR/DK/KSMCA/1016/25-26 Dt.31.10.25

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Office of Head of the Legal Cell, Annex-3 Building, 5th Floor, Bengaluru-560002

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
SLP(C) NO.16117/2022
IN THE MATTER OF:
Bruhat Bengalure Mahangara Palike
By Its Chief Commissioner .....PETITIONER
Versus
Sri. B.Chinnaswamy Shetty and Others ..... RESPONDENTS

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT No.2 & 7
1. All the Legal Heirs of: B.S.Shantharam (Dead), S/o B.Subbarama Setty, Seshamahal, Vanivilas Road, Bangalore-560004, Karnataka. (Respondent No.2)
2. All the Legal Heirs of: B.S.Krishnamurthy (Dead), S/o Late B.Subbaiahm Setty, Seshamahal, Vanivilasa Road, Bangalore-560004, Karnataka. (Respondent No.7)

Whereas, the Petitioner above named had filed the above Special Leave Petition Under Article 136 of the Constitution of India against you and Another, seeking this Hon'ble Court to grant special leave to appeal against the impugned judgment and final order dated: 04/10/2021 passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka at Bengaluru in CRP.No.482/2013 (EX) (Impugned Order).
Hon'ble Supreme Court of India by its order dated: 04/08/2025 granted two weeks' time to the Petitioner herein to comply with the Order dated 13.12.2023 pursuant to which the LRs of deceased Respondent Nos.2 and 7 were to be brought on record. After filing of the present Special Leave Petition, recently the Petitioner came to know about the demise of Respondent Nos.2 and 7. The petitioner has made diligent inquiries to ascertain the particulars and names of the legal representatives of the deceased respondent No.2 and 7. However, despite best efforts, the petitioner has not been able to obtain correct particulars/names and addresses of the said legal heirs. The respondents No.2 and 7 and their legal heirs may be the residents of the same place as mentioned in the cause title. In view of this Hon'ble Court allowed the I.A No.189512/2025 for paper publication to bring the LRs of the deceased respondent no.2 and 7 on record.
That in the circumstances, it is just and necessary that this Hon'ble Court may be pleased to direct the office to issue notice at the last known address of the deceased respondent or in the alternative, direct substituted service by way of public notice/publication in a widely circulated newspaper at the place of residence of the deceased respondent.
Therefore hereby Legal heirs of the deceased respondent no.2 and 7 are summoned to appear in this Court in person or by a pleader on or before: 18/11/2025 to answer the same, failing which the appeal will be heard and determined in your absence.

(By Order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court)
Sd/-
Head of the Legal Cell
Bengaluru Central City Corporation
Advocate for Petitioner:
M/S NULI & NULI, ADVOCATE, Supreme Court of India, No.1501, 15th Floor, Super Nova, 'Astralis' Plot No.03, Sector-94, Noida-201301, U.P, Delhi-NCR, India.

Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited
(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN: U04010KA2002SGC030438)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e- Procurement)

Chief Engineer (Ele)., Chitradurga Zone, BESCOM, Chitradurga invites Tender for the following through e-Procurement portal in two cover system. **(1) Enq No & Date:** CEE/CTAZ/SEE(O)/AEE-1/2025-26/FTNC/43/CALL-2/Date: **30.10.2025. Particulars:** Providing 51 numbers of temporary manpower services to Fast Track New Connecton Cell (FTNC) (38 Nos of Project Engineer/FTNC Co-ordinators, 10 Nos of Data Entry Operators (DEOs) and 03 Nos of Receptionist) through an outsource agency to various C,O&M Sub-divisions of Davanagere & Tumakuru circle in CTAZ, BESCOM for a period of one year. **Approx Amount put to tender: Rs. 1,41,53,495/-. EMD Amount: Rs. 2,12,303/-. Contract Period:** 12 Months. **(2) Enq No & Date:** CEE/CTAZ/SEE(O)/AEE-1/2025-26/SWEEPER/44/CALL-2/Date: **30.10.2025. Particulars:** Providing 75 number of Sweepers on temporary basis through an outsource agency to various offices of Chitradurga Zonal Jurisdiction, BESCOM for a period of one year. **Approx Amount put to tender: Rs. 1,75,93,180/-. EMD Amount: Rs. 2,63,898/-. Contract Period:** 12 Months.
Time Schedule: (a) Bid document available on e-portal: **04.11.2025 at 17.00 Hrs onwards. (b)** Pre bid meeting: **10.11.2025 at 11:00 Hrs. (c)** Last date for submission of queries: **13.11.2025 up to 17:00 Hrs. (d)** Last date for submission of bid document: **19.11.2025 up to 17:00 Hrs. (e)** Date and time of opening technical bid: **21.11.2025 at 11:00 Hrs.**
The details regarding participation in the tender can be obtained through KPP Portal from the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 04.11.2025.** Aspiring bidders need to register on e-procurement portal.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, (Ele)., O&M, Zone, Chitradurga, BESCOM.

For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP

DIRECTORATE OF MINORITIES
Maulana Azad Bhavan, No.16C, Miller Tank Bed Road, Vasantnagar, Bengaluru - 560 052.
No: DOM/UPSC Training/TENDER/CR-10/2025-26 Date: 31.10.2025

Announcement of Tender

Tender has been invited by the Directorate of Minorities for Providing Pre-recruitment residential UPSC PRE EXAMINATION Training to Minority Candidates in Haj Bhavana, Bengaluru for the year 2025-26. Interested & eligible bidders/institutes can apply through e-Procurement portal. The schedule of tender will be as follows.

Sl. No.	No. of Details	Date/Time
1.	Date of Tender Publication	31.10.2025
2.	Tender Amount:	Rs. 300.00 Lakhs.
3.	EMD Amount:	Rs.4.50 Lakhs.
4.	Pre-bid meeting:	10.11.2025 at 11:30 a.m.
5.	Last date and time for submission of tender:	01.12.2025 by 5:30 p.m.
6.	Date and time of Technical bid opening:	03.12.2025 at 11:30 a.m.
7.	Date and time of Financial bid opening:	06.12.2025 at 11:30 a.m.
8.	Place of tender opening and contact address:	Maulana Azad Bhawan, No.16C, Miller tank Bed Road, Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru - 560052.
9.	Telephone No. to be contacted	080-22535902 080-22535912 Email ID:Tendercelldom@gmail.com

Other details can be obtained from the website of the Directorate of Minorities **https://dom.karnataka.gov.in** and e-Procurement website at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Joint Director
Directorate of Minorities, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/3544/2025-26

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, Bangalore – 560064
E - TENDER NOTICE No: RWF/EL/OT/ASC/2025-26/05 DATED: 28/10/2025
E - TENDER: On behalf of the President of India, the Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer invites electronic tender for the following work online through the website **http://www.ireps.gov.in** (Works)
Tender No.: RWF/EL/OT/ASC/2025-26/05, DATED: 28/10/2025, **Name of the work :** One-Time Comprehensive Maintenance of Isolation Transformers at Axle Machine Shop, RWF. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 8,43,936.00, **Earnest Money Deposit :** Rs. 16,900.00, **Date & Time of Closing of Tenders :** 19.11.2025 at 10:30 hours, **Completion Period :** 6 Months. This tender notice can be viewed on our website **"www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in".**
DY. CME/AM

KARNATAKA STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION
Ugrana Bhavana, No.43, Primrose Road, Bengaluru - 560025
Phone: 080-29533679, Fax: 080-29533673 email:mdkswc2018@gmail.com
No:KSWC/ADM/09/Veh-Ten/2025-26/1508 Dated: 31.10.2025

SHORT TERM RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Karnataka State Warehousing Corporation has invited short-term re-tender from through KPP portal for the procurement of 07 vehicles (AC) required for the head office of the corporation on monthly rental basis for a period of one year from an eligible organization on outsourced basis. The details are as follows.
Calendar of events

Tender No: KSWC/2025-26/SE0109/Call-2	
Tenders submission begins date:	31-10-2025 at 03.05 P.M
Pre tender bid meeting date:	03-11-2025 at 11.30 A.M
The last date for submission of tenders:	10-11-2025 upto 12.00 P.M
Date of opening the Technical bid:	11-11-2025 at 12.25 P.M
Date of opening the Financial bid:	12-11-2025 at 01.00 P.M

For more details, the tenderer may refer to e-procurement website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in or contact the office helpline +91-8046010000 / +91-8068948777. **Sd/-**
DIPR/CP/3528/CCL/2025-26 **Managing Director**

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DH DECCAN HERALD

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The murky world of online fandoms.

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China builds, America argues.

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Taj Mahal: Not just a love story.

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Why is chilli oil so haute?

TRAVEL
Visit the historic markets of Tashkent.

WELLNESS
You have but one spine, take care of it!

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VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAMA LIMITED
(Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division, No.1 Sakaleshpur - 573134 Ph: 08173-244454, e-mail: eeypdn1@gmail.com
Tender Notification No: EE/YP/VJNL/DIV-01//TN-08/2025-26/ 1197 Dated: 29.10.2025

(Two COVER TENDER DOCUMENT SYSTEM) (Only through E-procurement KPPP Portal system)

Tenders in electronic mode on "PERCENTAGE BASIS" are invited on behalf of Managing Director, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigama Limited, Bangalore by the Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division No.1, Sakaleshpura, Hassan District in Single cover system. Details of works are as follows Sl. No.Name of work 1.Providing & Supplying Man Power to the office of Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division No.01, Sakleshpura, Assistant Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Sub Division No.01, Sakleshpura, Assistant Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Sub Division No.08, Sakleshpura, Assistant Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Sub Division No.13, Sakleshpura,, Assistant Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Electrical Sub Division Sakleshpura, Hassan District for the year 2025-26., Amount put to tender (Rs. In Lakhs)Obtained through e-portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Category of Contractor Registered Manpower Agency 2.Providing & Supplying Man Power to the office of Assistamt Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Sub Division No.09, Alur, Hassan District for the year 2025-26. Amount put to tender (Rs. In Lakhs)Obtained through e-portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Category of Contractor Registered Manpower Agency Details for submission of bids/EMD/ tender conditions/Pre-qualification criteria/ Pre bid details and other information related to above said work can be obtained through e-portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Intending bidder can access the tender document from Date: 31/10/2025 through KPPP e-portal. The authority competent to accept the tenders shall have the right of rejecting all or any of the tenders without assigning any reasons and will not be bound to accept the lowest tender. Corrigendum/addendum will be published in the KPPP e-portal. Any further information required may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours. Executive Engineer, VJNL, YP Division, No.1, Sakaleshpura. Ph: 08173-244454, e-mail: eeypdn1@gmail.com

Sd/-Executive Engineer, VJNL, YP Division, No.1, Sakaleshpura
ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ಹಿಸನ/ಹಾಸನ/721/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

Over 50 fall ill after consuming arrack at border village

GAURIBIDANUR (CHIKKABALLAPUR DISTRICT), DHNS: More than 50 labourers took ill after consuming arrack at Chowluru village of Andhra Pradesh, which borders Gauribidanur, on Friday.

The affected have been admitted at various hospitals in Gauribidanur and Doddaballapur. More than 10 are under treatment at a private hospital in Gauribidanur. Sources said that three are in ICU at a Doddaballapur hospital.

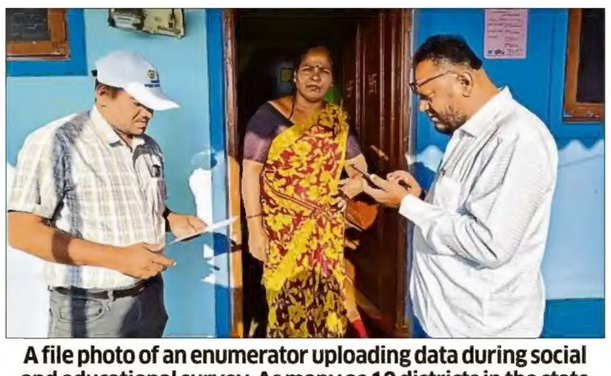
Arrack sale is rampant in the vicinity of Chowluru village. It is said many people from Bengaluru, Doddaballapur and Gauribidanur come to this village for consuming arrack.

A relative of a labourer under treatment said that most of them were admitted at Doddaballpur hospitals after consuming arrack stocked for a long period.

The officials of Excise department of Gauribidanur taluk are now erecting boards warning of penalty of Rs 50,000 and five-year jail term for arrack sale.

Social and edu survey ends with 89% enumeration statewide

4.22 lakh households refused to participate



A file photo of an enumerator uploading data during social and educational survey. As many as 10 districts in the state have recorded over 100% enumeration.

BENGALURU, DHNS:

The social and educational survey concluded on Friday with an 89% enumeration, even as 4.22 lakh households refused to participate in the survey.

According to official data from the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes (KSCBC), 6.13 crore of the 6.85 crore (89.48%) projected population of Karnataka as per the 2025 estimates participated in the survey. As many as 34.49 lakh households were either locked or vacant.

"The social and educational survey that began on September 22 concluded on October 31. Those who couldn't participate in the survey for different reasons can enumerate online through https://kscbcselfdeclaration.karnataka.gov.in till November 10," KSCBC member secretary K A Dayananda said. Those who have not enumerated can also the helpline number - 8050770004.

100% enumeration

As many as 10 districts – Mandya, Tumakuru, Haveri, Chitradurga, Chikkamagaluru, Udupi, Gadag, Koppal, Davanagere and Chamarajanagar – recorded over 100% enumeration. This means that all these districts saw more people enumerating in the survey than the total number of people supposed to be in the districts as per estimations.

Mandya saw the highest percentage of enumeration (110.23%), followed by Tumakuru (106.88%), Haveri (103.68%), Chitradurga (103.56%) and Chikkamagaluru (102.64%). However, the enumeration in Bengaluru has been poor and has pulled down the state average.

Despite an 89% enumeration, the Madhusudan R Naikled KSCBC faces challenges, as the previous survey overseen by the H Kantharaj Commission in 2015 had registered a 94% enumeration. The commission will now analyse the data and submit its report, which will suggest the classification of Backward Classes. Currently, Backward Classes in Karnataka have been divided into Category 1, 2 and 3.

The survey has for long been an ambitious project of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who has contended that it's necessary to achieve social justice. However, the dominant communities have continued to oppose it. The previous survey was vehemently opposed by the Lingayat and Vokkaliga communities, which accused it of being "unscientific" and "undercounting" their numbers.

When the current survey began, the All India Veerashaiva Mahasabha, Rajya Vokkaligara Sangha and Akhila Karnataka Brahmana Mahasabha had opposed it and approached the High Court. Though the court refused to stay the survey, it noted that participation in the survey was not mandatory, and that people could only answer as many questions as they wanted.

The survey was initially scheduled to end on October 7, but was extended twice.

Scholarship money lying unused in accounts of 45 govt college principals

BENGALURU, DHNS

Principals of 45 government degree colleges in the state have not disbursed the scholarship amount from their accounts to beneficiary students, in academic years prior to 2019-20.

According to the principal accountant general (PAG), who raised objections to the same, 'a huge scholarship amount' received from various departments towards scholarships of students from SC/ST/OBC and minority communities is lying unused in the principals' accounts.

In a communication to the department of collegiate education (DCE), the PAG has sought details of the non-disbursed amounts from the accounts of principals along with scanned copies of bank passbooks.

"During the compliance audit of the DCE, scrutiny of records was carried out in the offices of joint directors and various colleges up to the year 2023-24. It was observed that huge undisbursed scholarship amounts are lying in the accounts. These scholarship amounts were received prior to the implementation of the state scholarship portal (SSP) for disbursement of money. It is required to obtain details of undisbursed amounts lying in college principals' accounts and details of expenditure made from the scholarship amount by colleges from 2021-22 to 2024-25 must be furnished to the audit earliest," reads a communication from the PAG to the DCE commissioner.

As per data available from the department, 45 listed colleges include five from Bengaluru: Government RC College of Commerce and Management, Government Science College, Government First Grade College, Vijayanagar, Government First Grade College, Malleswaram, Government Women's First Grade college, Vijayanagar.

'No misuse, students may not have claimed it'

According to department officials, they are yet to receive details from some colleges.

"Once we receive details from all 45 colleges, we will submit the same to the PAG," an official said.

Post the 2019-20 academic year, scholarship schemes of various departments were implemented through SSP and money was transferred via direct benefit transfer to Aadhaar-linked bank accounts of students.

"There are less chances of misuse or diversion of funds to other programmes. As it was not through DBT earlier, the amount may not have been claimed by beneficiary students," the official said.

Cardiologist from Jayadeva presents research findings on complications in HIV patients

BENGALURU, DHNS:

Bengaluru-based cardiologist Dr H S Natraj Setty has garnered global recognition for his pioneering research on cardiac complications in HIV patients.

His study, titled "Cardiac Complications in People Living With HIV: Long-Term Insights From an Indian Cohort" was presented at the Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics (TCT), 2025 conference held in San Francisco, US, and the study was published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology (JACC).

The research represents one of India's largest long-term studies on HIV-associated coronary artery disease, encompassing 910 patients treated and followed up for over a decade at Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research (SJICR).

The paper highlights the growing challenge of cardiovascular complications among HIV-positive individuals in the modern era of antiretroviral therapy. "Our findings show that even with effective HIV control and modern drug-eluting stent technology, cardiovascular risk persists," said Dr Setty.

"This underscores the importance of early risk identification, targeted secondary prevention, and integrated management strategies for this vulnerable population," he said. The study was a part of a decade-long registry at SJICR and investigates the interplay among HIV infection, metabolic risk factors, and coronary atherosclerosis, focusing on clinical and angiographic outcomes following PCI.

"Findings underscore the need for HIV-specific cardiovascular protocols and multidisciplinary follow-up to improve long-term survival and quality of life," SJICR said in a statement.

Setty is an Associate Professor of Cardiology and Research Head at SJICR. In his career, he has performed over 8,000 coronary interventions. He is a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology (FACC), Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (FSCAI), European Society of Cardiology (FESC), and American Heart Association (FAHA).

'Cong has failed to protect women and children in state'

BENGALURU, DHNS: Union Minister of State for Micro, Small and Medium Industries Shobha Karandlaje on Friday alleged that Congress-led government has failed to ensure the safety of women and children.

Unveiling a 'Killer Congress Government' poster in Bengaluru, Shobha said, "More than 1,800 atrocities against women have been reported in the state in the past two years. Those in the government are caught up in power struggles or busy minting money."

SBI State Bank of India
Regional Business Office – 4 Peenya
Adminstrative Office 2,3rd Floor, SBI K.G Road Complex
Bengaluru – 560009

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The format for submission of the technical bid containing detailed parameters, terms and conditions and price bid can be downloaded from SBI website www.sbi.co.in under SBI in the news/ Procurement news from 01.11.2025 to 21.11.2025.The offers containing the technical bid and price bid shall be submitted separately in two different sealed covers to SBI Regional Business Office-4 Peenya, Administrative Office -2, 3rd Floor, SBI Building, K.G Road, Bengaluru-560009 on or before 3.30PM on 21.11.2025. Brokers will not be entertained.
Sd/
Place : Bengaluru
Date :01.11.2025
Regional Manager
Regional Business Office IV, AO 2

SBI State Bank of India
Regional Business Office – 4 Peenya
Adminstrative Office 2,3rd Floor, SBI K.G Road Complex
Bengaluru – 560009

PREMISES REQUIRED ON LEASE

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The format for submission of the technical bid containing detailed parameters, terms and conditions and price bid can be downloaded from SBI website www.sbi.co.in under SBI in the news/ Procurement news from 01.11.2025 to 21.11.2025.The offers containing the technical bid and price bid shall be submitted separately in two different sealed covers to SBI Regional Business Office - 4 Peenya, Administrative Office - 2, 3rd Floor, SBI Building, K.G Road, Bengaluru - 560009 on or before 3.30PM on 21.11.2025. Brokers will not be entertained.
Sd/
Place : Bengaluru
Date :01.11.2025
Regional Manager
Regional Business Office IV, AO 2

Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Government of India
150th JANJATIYA GAURAV VARSH

150th Birth Anniversary of
DHARTI AABA
BHAGWAN BIRSA MUNDA
CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT, STRENGTH AND HERITAGE OF INDIA'S TRIBES
Honouring the Legacy, Empowering the Future

"India will prosper when our tribal communities prosper, the welfare of tribal communities is our foremost priority
Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

JANJATIYA GAURAV VARSH PAKHWADA
1st - 15th November 2025

A NATIONWIDE CELEBRATION – A COMMITMENT TO TRIBAL EMPOWERMENT
Over 1 lakh events are being organized across 30 States and UTs, showcasing the rich Tribal Heritage, Culture, and Achievements

MAJOR PUBLIC-FOCUSED INITIATIVES
- Display of "Tribal Village Vision 2030" at Adi Sewa Kendras, prepared under the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan
- Showcase of Van Dhan Products and Tribal Handicrafts by VDVKs, PVTGs, and tribal artisans
- Benefit Saturation Camps for PVTG households and tribal individuals
- Health and Medical Camps in tribal regions for improved access and awareness

EDUCATIONAL PARTICIPATION
497 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) across the country will host over 7,000 activities celebrating tribal pride, heritage, and leadership

CBC 43101/13/0027/2526

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JANJATIYA GAURAV VARSH
15th November 2024 - 15th November 2025

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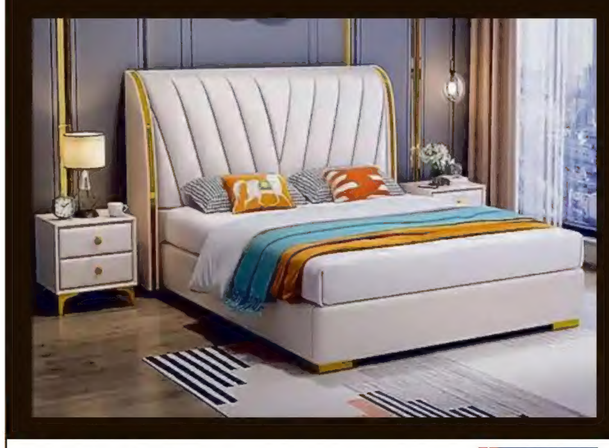

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Plan violations: Govt revises penalties

BENGALURU, DHNS: The government has revised penalties on builders who violate approved building plans under all urban local bodies in the state, excluding Bengaluru.

Violations up to 15% on providing setbacks will attract penalties ranging from Rs 1,000 to Rs 3,000 per square metre for residential, industrial and commercial buildings under town panchayats, town municipal councils, city municipal councils and city corporations.

The penalty for up to 5% violation in the approved car parking space will be Rs 5,000. Violation of up to 5% in floor area ratio (FAR) will range from Rs 1,000 to Rs 3,000 per square metre, the municipal adminisitration wing of the urban development department said in its order.

17 years after, autonomy eludes Classical Kannada Centre

The centre in CM's home dist lacks own land, building

SHILPA P
MYSURU, DHNS

The spirit of Kannada and Karnataka is celebrated on the 70th Kannada Rajyotsava on November 1, on Saturday. However, even after 17 years since Kannada was accorded the Classical Kannada status, the 'Centre of Excellence for Studies in Classical Kannada' (CESCK), located in Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's home district, is yet to get autonomous status. It neither has its own registered land nor building.

Director of CESCK Nilgiri Talawar said, "Unless the CESCK has its own land, registered in its name, it cannot get autonomous status from the Union Ministry of Education, funds to build its own building and additional funds to have more staff and to expand its activities. The University of Mysore (UoM) Syndicate approved to give 4.12 acres of land on its Manasagangothri campus to the CESCK in 2020. There is a state government order too in this regard. But, the land is yet to be registered in the name of CESCK."

CESCK is functioning as a part of the Central Institute of Indian Languages. When contacted, Deputy Director of CIIL, P R Dharmesh Fernandes said that they had written a letter to the Union Ministry of Education, seeking permission to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the UoM, to register the land in the name of CESCK for 99 years. "We will take measures to speed up the process," he added.

Assistant Director for Kannada and Culture (DKC), Mysuru, M D Sudarshan said that they had sent a proposal to the state government for getting autonomous status to the CESCK. "We will send it to the Union government also," he said.

"Former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu late M Karunanidhi took initiatives to ensure that the Central Institute of Classical Tamil got 17 acres of land and autonomous status. CM Siddaramaiah was basically a farmer and Kannada activist. He was Chairman of the Kannada Kaavalu Samithi in the beginning of his political career. Being the CM for a second term, Siddaramaiah should grant at least 10 acres of land for the CESCK in Mysuru. He should visit the CESCK and hold a meeting with officials of CESCK, CIIL and Kannada and Culture department, and take a delegation to the Central government to ensure that the CESCK gets autonomous status during his tenure as CM. People will remember this landmark work forever," said Aravind Sharma of Samagra Karnataka Rakshana Vedike.

After classical status was accorded to Kannada language in 2008, the CESCK was established on CIIL premises only in 2011, in order to facilitate research related to Classical Kannada. While Bengaluru University and UoM both offered land for the CESCK, writers from Mysuru demanded to retain it Mysuru. So, it was shifted to a small space with three rooms at a housing quarters of UoM in 2018. On November 1, 2020 it was shifted to its existing space -10 rooms in the first floor of 'National Council for Historical Research' (NCHR) at Manasagangothri. Its 12 staff are working on a temporary basis.

Meanwhile, the UoM has entered into an MoU in February 2023, with the DKC to provide a portion of Jayalakshmi Vilas Mansion (JVM) to house the CESCK. But its restoration is under process. But a portion of JVM can be an office, but won't fetch autonomous status as they need a land registered Centre's name, CESCK sources said.

CM assures 1% internal quota for nomadic SC communities

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah assured on Friday that the government was considering how they could provide a separate 1% reservation to nomadic Scheduled Caste (SC) communities.

".. the government doesn't have any intention of including one caste with another or doing injustice to any community. We will find a solution and resolve this issue," the chief minister said.

Siddaramaiah's assurance came during a meeting with the Confederation of Untouchable Nomadic Communities of Karnataka, which has been fighting for over two months on the reservation issue.

The nomadic communities are protesting against the 6-6-5 formula of the state government for internal reservation to SCs, which "modified" the Justice H N Nagamohan Das Commission report and merged 59 'most backward' SC communities with the 'less backward' Lambani, Bhovi, Korma and Korcha communities.

Siddaramaiah

Justice Das had recommended a 1-6-5-4-1 formula, where the 59 communities were considered 'most backward' and given first preference under category A.

During the meeting, Siddaramaiah is said to have requested the confederation to withdraw the petition filed in the High Court against the 6-6-5 formula of the state government.

The High Court did not stop the recruitment but has stayed final appointments based on the 6-6-5 formula.

Siddaramaiah also agreed to the other two demands of the community to provide a separate board for the community which doesn't include the Korma and Korcha communities and to give a comprehensive package to the community that provides them land, educational facilities and self-employment opportunities.

"We will carefully examine the path to implement the separate 1% reservation that you have requested. Please have faith in the government - we will not abandon the nomadic communities. After further discussion, we will implement the 1% reservation," a press note by the confederation quoted Siddaramaiah as having said.

The confederation hailed the meeting as an "important breakthrough" in their demand for a separate 1% reservation but sought a written commitment.

"We welcome the assurance but we need a clear, written Government Order (GO). Until then, the government should not proceed with any recruitment," the press note by the confederation added.

The nomadic communities, led by the confederation, conducted 'Delhi Chalo' and camped in the national capital for around 2 weeks and urged the Congress High Command to give them justice. Veteran Congressman and MLC B K Hariprasad had assured the community of resolving their issue by convening a meeting with the chief minister, after which the communities returned to Karnataka.

The nomadic communities, which have for centuries been socio-educationally and economically backward, have a population of 5.22 lakh in Karnataka.

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Final Rituals will be held on
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& Family Members

Dharmasthala SIT to halt probe temporarily

MANGALURU: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) will temporarily halt its probe into the Dharmasthala mass burial case after the High Court stayed the FIR registered in the case.

The stay came following a petition by the four activists Mahesh Shetty Thimarody, Girish Mattannavar, T Jayanth and slain Sowjanya's uncle Vittal Gowda, who had earlier supported the registration of the FIR and have now sought its quashing.

The court has posted the matter for hearing on November 12.

A senior SIT official told *DH* that the court's order should not be seen as a setback to the investigation.

"It is only a temporary pause. We have not yet presented our arguments before the court. So, there is nothing conclusive about this development. We will temporarily halt investigative activities until the next hearing," the official said.

The official added that the SIT has gathered substantial evidence to justify and defend the steps taken so far.

"Our investigation has been methodical. We have sufficient material to support our position when the matter is heard next," the source added.

DOWN THE DRAIN

Farmers dump tomatoes from a tractor after prices plummet and the produce is damaged by rain in Chikkamagaluru on Friday. PTI PHOTO

Decision to give Rajyotsava award to head of Maratha Mandal angers Kannada activists

BELAGAVI, DHNS: Alleging that the Maratha Mandal had always taken stand against the interests of Kannada language, land and its water, various Kannada organisations on Friday condemned the state government's decision to select its president Rajshree Nagaraju Yadav for Rajyotsava Award.

Senior Kannada activist and the member of Karnataka Border Area development Authority Ashok Chandaragi has written to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H K Patil, urging them to withdraw the decision to give the Rajyotsava award to Maratha Mandal president. "The Belagavi-based Mandal has always acted against Karnataka on language and border issues. The organisation does not use Kannada in its boards. It has never celebrated Kannada Rajyotsava. Giving a Rajyotsava award to such an anti-Kannada organisation is an insult to the award. The state government's decision has angered the Kannada activists," Chandaragi stated in the letter.

"The successive government followed a norm of giving Rajyotsava awards to eminent personalities aged 60 and above. But in Rajshree's case it is not followed. There is a feeling here that she has been picked for being the wife of MLC Nagaraju Yadav," Chandaragi said. The Kannada activist further said that the state government has ignored eminent personalities from Belagavi, including B S Gavimath, Basavaraj Jagajampi, L S Shastri, S M Kulkarni, H B Kolakar, D S Chougale, Prof Y B Himmadi, who have made immense contribution to cause of Kannada and Karnataka.

ASHOK CHANDARAGI
Senior Kannada activist

"The successive government followed a norm of giving Rajyotsava awards to eminent personalities aged 60 and above. But in Rajshree's case it is not followed. There is a feeling here that she has been picked for being the wife of MLC Nagaraju Yadav.

He urged the government to revoke the decision to present the Rajyotsava award to Rajshree Yadav and instead pick one of the abovementioned eminent personalities for the award.

8 police officers from state get Union HM's Efficiency Medals

BENGALURU, DHNS: Eight police officers from the state who performed well in the investigation of cases and intelligence department have been awarded the Union Home Minister's Efficiency Medal for the year 2025.

The names of the officers and staff who have been awarded the medals were announced on Friday. The officers are:

Investigation division
M K Thammaiah, Additional District Superintendent of Police, Hassan; Prakash Rathod, Assistant Commissioner of Police, KG Halli Sub-Division, Bengaluru; Gururaj Eshwar Kalyanshetty, Police Inspector, CCRB, Belagavi; Srishail K Byakod, Circle Police Inspector, Mudalagi Police Station, Belagavi District and Ramesh Chayagol, Inspector, Suddaguntepalya Station, Bengaluru.

Intelligence Division:
C V Deepak, DySP/ Assistant Director, State Intelligence, Bengaluru; Kallappa H Atnoor, PSI/Intelligence officer, State intelligence, Bengaluru and T M Madhu Kumar, Anti-Naxal force, Karkala.

DH Classifieds

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Teachers/ Professors

PERSONAL

Change of Name

CHANGE OF NAME
I, CHENARAM residing at No.17, Jyothi Shree, 1st Cross, Brindavan Nagar, Thavarekere, Bangalore-560029, have changed my name to CHANDAN P SUTHAR vide affidavit dated 31/10/2025, before Notary A.S. Narayana Reddy, Bangalore.

I PATEL Dharmasi Shivaji residing at 169 ward no 20 bharathi nagara Chickballapur 562101 have changed my name to Dharamsi Patel Shivaji vide affidavit date 31.10.2025 sworn before advocate and notary K.H Venkatappa Chickballapur

I, HOMBAMMA W/o.Shivanna R/a#78 Challaghatta, Kengeri Hobali, Bangalore 560060 declare`that BHAGYAMMA_Urf HOMBAMMA both_Name one and the same person, i.e.myself only. Vide`affidavit dated:19.2.2025 before_Notary Ravi,Bangalore.

MORE Classifieds IN SUPPLEMENT

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Administrator: Master Degree with 10 years Experience
Foreman: ME / Civil - BE / Diploma with 3 years Experience
System Admin: Dip / BCA / B.Sc. in Comp. Sci. Specialized in Networking & CCTV integration with min 2-3 years exp.
Lab Instructor: Diploma / B.E. in CS / AI & ML
Warden: Boys Hostel, Degree with 5 years Experience
Physical Edn Director(Lady): B-PEd / M-PEd with 3 years Experience
Coach Part time: Nationals / NIS Certified
SDA: Degree with 3 years Experience

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VIVEKANANDA DEGREE COLLEGE
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HR Manager: MBA in HR with 5 years Experience
HR Assistant.: BBA / MBA in HR with 3 years Experience

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H. C. Balakrishna Hon. President
Appareddy Harish Hon. Secretary

Surety can't be discharged unilaterally without repayment or substitution: HC

AMBARISH B
BENGALURU, DHNS

The Karnataka High Court has said that a surety or a guarantor cannot be discharged unilaterally at the request of such surety or guarantor.

"The discharge can only happen on repayment of the loan amount and/or substitution of the surety/ guarantor to the satisfaction of the lender," Justice Suraj Govindaraj said while dismissing the petition filed by Munireddy, who challenged his disqualification as president and director of Mahayogi Vemana Cooperative Society, Yelahanka, Bengaluru.

The petitioner was surety for one Ravishankar Reddy from borrowed loan from Mahayogi Vemana Cooperative Society. When Reddy failed to repay the loan, three directors of the society filed a complaint with the Registrar of Co-operative Societies seeking disqualification. He was disqualified from the directorship with effect from December 30, 2023 and the appeal too was dismissed.

Challenging these orders, the petitioner contended that he wanted to retire as surety. Rule 5 (3) of the Business Rules of the Co-operative Society permits the surety to retire by giving due notice to the principal borrower, it was submitted and that such a notice had been given by the petitioner. It was claimed that notices were issued to Reddy to make available a fresh surety on account of the petitioner having retired as a surety. It was contended that the resolution was passed with the majority of 12 directors out of 14 in support of the petitioner. According to the petitioner, since he had indicated intention to retire, it was for the borrower to bring a new surety and regularise the loan account.

On the other hand, the complainant submitted that the petitioner, being a powerful political figure, had exerted undue influence over the board and got a resolution passed. The resolution is unauthorised and illegal by unilaterally permitting the petitioner to retire from being the surety without any substitution, he argued.

The court examined section 128 of the Indian Contract Act and said that the liability of a surety/guarantor is co-extensive with that of the principal borrower, and this liability shall continue until the loan is repaid.

"The aspect of a guarantor being required when a loan is sanctioned is to ensure that the repayment of the loan is made by either the Principal Borrower or the guarantor. Of course, the guarantor would have the right of subrogation, entitling the guarantor to receive the monies from the Principal Borrower, if paid by the guarantor," Justice Suraj Govindaraj said.

The court further said, "In the present case, a unilateral letter has been issued by the petitioner seeking to retire from suretyship, which has apparently been accepted in a meeting of the Board by 12 of the Directors voting in favour of the Resolution. The Petitioner, who is the President of the Society, has apparently been able to get the Board to pass a resolution in his favour, which is contrary to law."

'Disciplinary authority not empowered to endlessly hold fresh inquiries'

BENGALURU DHNS

A disciplinary authority is not empowered to endlessly commission fresh inquiries, until its predisposition is satisfied, the Dharwad bench of the high court has observed in a recent judgment.

Justice M Nagaprasanna has said this while setting aside the fresh inquiry proceedings ordered against a chief officer at Town Municipal Council in Lakshmeshwar, Gadag district.

The petitioner Ravi D Bagalkot was working as Chief Officer of Kalaghatagi town municipal corporation in Dharwad district during 2013-14.

An inquiry was ordered against him on certain allegations of irregularities with regards to civil works, grant of illegal khata transfer permission. After the inquiry, the inquiry officer exonerated him. However, on January 20, 2018, the Department of Municipal Administration ordered a fresh inquiry by appointing an officer for conducting proceedings on the same set of allegations.

Challenging this, it was argued on behalf of the petitioner that there cannot be a new inquiry by a different inquiry officer on the same charges. On the other hand, the state government defended the action contending that the disciplinary authority was not satisfied with the first report and therefore a de novo inquiry was directed to be conducted.

The court cited Apex Court judgments on similar issues wherein the top court consistently held that while further enquiry by the same officer is permissible if marred by procedural lapses, the appointment of successive officers, until a desired conclusion is reached, would undoubtedly amount to abuse of the process.

"The principle that emerges is clear as crystal; the Disciplinary Authority is empowered to reconsider the evidence and record its own findings which would be in disagreement with the findings of the Enquiry Officer; it is not empowered to endlessly commission fresh enquiries, until its predisposition is satisfied. Such a course not only contravenes the Rules, but also strikes at the root of fairness, reasonableness and becomes arbitrary. In the present case, the appointment of the new Enquiry Officer to rehear the very charges already adjudicated is wholly without jurisdiction. If permitted, it would reduce the enquiry process into a never ending ordeal, eroding the basic tenets of administrative justice," Justice Nagaprasanna said.

My personal opinion is that RSS be banned: Kharge

Kharge, from Page 1

"Sardar Patel has put in public domain his reasoning and if Modi and (Amit) Shah respect him, it should be done," Kharge said.

He said Patel banned the RSS to protect the interests of the country while it is strange that "two big leaders from Gujarat (Modi and Shah) say this". Those responsible for Gandhi's killing now claim Congress doesn't remember Sardar Patel, he said.

Kharge cited a letter written by Patel to Syama Prasad Mookerjee in which he said the RSS had created an atmosphere that led to the tragedy of the Mahatma's assassination. He also said that the RSS-BJP has always tried to portray a rift between first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Patel though they had great ties and both had praised each other.

"They have lifted the ban on employees joining RSS. It is dangerous to wake up a sleeping man. I don't have sophisticated language to express this. If you kill a snake and extract its venom, then you do not taste it to see whether it is actually venom. If you do so, you will die," he said.

Kharge said references to Mahatma Gandhi, Godse, the RSS and the 2002 Gujarat riots have been removed from NCERT books recently and it reveals their intentions. "Erasing truth from textbooks is not right...They always try to turn lies into truth. Our PM is an expert in this and his followers are walking the same path," he said.

1 crore jobs: NDA's big Bihar promise

Bihar manifesto, from Page 1

The ruling alliance has also assured construction of factories and industrial parks in every district, besides promising to make Bihar the "textile and silk hub of South Asia".

The Sankalp Patra also has sops for farmers. "Apart from the existing support to farmers, an additional Rs 3,000 will be provided under a new scheme – Karpoori Thakur Kisan Samman Nidhi – hiking the assistance from Rs 6,000 to Rs 9,000," said Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, who also holds the finance portfolio in the outgoing government.

"This Sanklap Patra is the guarantee of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and carries the trust of Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar," said state BJP president Dilip Jaiswal. Referring to the five partners in the ruling alliance in the state, the Bihar BJP chief said: "We five allies are like the Pandavas of Mahabharat and are fighting against the alliance led by Tejashwi Yadav who symbolises 'jungle raj' and Rahul Gandhi who symbolises corruption."

Man-jumbo conflict: Delay in rehab proves costly for local residents

Rehabilitation and resettlement plan approved by government in 2005

A file photo of a view of Kudremukh National Park in Chikkamagaluru district..

SHIVARAM BABU
DCF, Kudremukh Wildlife Division

"The department has taken up R&R seriously. We have been completing the rehabilitation procedure as and when we get funds. This year, Rs 5 crore was allocated to us and Rs 2.5 crore was released. We had already utilised that fund for rehabilitating four families. We have written to the higher ups for the release of the remaining amount. Priority will be given to the application by the families of the victims.

CHIRANJEEVI KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

The government's delay in processing the rehabilitation and resettlement (R&R) application of the families seeking to move out of the Kudremukh National Park (KNP) has claimed lives of two persons on Friday. The victims were among over 50% of the 1,382 families that had sought to move out of the park.

Umesh and Harish of Keremane in Kerekattte of Sringeri taluk in Chikkamagaluru district were trampled to death by a wild elephant on Friday. Sources in the department confirmed that the two belonged to families who have filed a R&R application. However, the same has not been processed due to lack of funds.

The rehabilitation and resettlement (R&R) plan was approved by the government in 2005, when the government was eager to root out Naxalism in Chikkamagaluru and Udupi districts. However, the project has taken a backseat due to several reasons, not least of which is the lack of political will.

As per the rules, R&R is a voluntary procedure. The department had found good response from among the 876 families in Chikkamagaluru district as over 500 of them had filed applications seeking relocation. "A total of 233 families who'd applied for relocation are from the Kerekatte range, where the two persons got killed. Unfortunately, R&R has slowed down in recent years," said wildlife conservationist Veeresh G.

The response from families in the rest of the KNP in the neighbouring districts varied. Of the 263 families from Dakshina Kannada, over half of them sought relocation but only about one-third of the 243 families in Udupi district had expressed interest. This, even though the government's R&R package in 2020 was Rs 40 lakh per family.

Though over 550 families have applied for R&R, the forest department has managed to clear only 255 applications. "We have 297 families waiting to get out of KNP. The project has nearly stalled in the last five years, leaving families waiting for compensation. The two victims were from Keremane village near Kerekatte. Senior officials need to take interest in helping these communities to prevent further tragedies," he said.

Officials said the department also paid ex gratia of Rs 20 lakh to each of the families. A senior official said R&R comes to the fore only during a tragedy.

"The government has been trying to get compensatory afforestation funds for the R&R project. Though the funds belong to the state, it requires Centre's approval," an official said.

DGCA amends norms for wheelchair services for able-bodied persons at airports

DGCA

"Airline may levy appropriate assistance fee from passengers other than persons with disability (Divyangjan) and persons with reduced mobility who opt to use these services. The same shall be displayed on the airline's website.

NEW DELHI, PTI: Airlines can now charge for wheelchair services availed by able-bodied people at airports, with aviation regulator DGCA revising the norms.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has amended the Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR) pertaining to Carriage by Air - Persons with Disability (Divyangjan) and/or Persons with Reduced Mobility'.

"Airline may levy appropriate assistance fee from passengers other than persons with disability (Divyangjan) and persons with reduced mobility who opt to use these services. The same shall be displayed on the airline's website," the DGCA said.

The regulator had last month issued the draft civil aviation requirement on the use of wheelchairs at the airports, seeking comments from the public by September 19, following multiple complaints against both airlines and airport operators over wheelchair bookings.

According to the revised norms, to facilitate the timely provision of necessary assistance, passengers who have requested such support will report to the airport sufficiently in advance of their scheduled departure time.

Considering airport-specific constraints such as terminal layout, security procedures, and resource availability, airlines may prescribe a minimum reporting time to facilitate seamless assistance, as per the revised CAR.

Although the basic responsibility for providing wheelchairs is that of the airline operator as such requests are captured through the airline's booking and reservation systems. Further, airport operator shall provide extra wheelchairs wherever required for the convenience of their passengers, it said, adding that airlines should allow carriage of assistive devices free of charge on aircraft.

Also, as per the revised CAR, airlines may levy an appropriate assistance fee on passengers other than persons with disability (Divyangjan) and persons with reduced mobility who opt to use it, and it will be displayed on the airline's website.

Airport building operator will display signage throughout the airport, including terminal areas, in a clear and unambiguous manner as per international standards. Airports to display a signage board for a reserved drop-off point for persons with proper visibility or reduced mobility before entering the airport, with proper visibility for taxis.

Further, airports are to ensure that reserved drop-off points remain vacant for persons with disability (Divyangjan) or reduced mobility, the DGCA said.

Elephant attack claims 2 lives in Sringeri taluk

Locals stage protest; traffic blocked for several hours

The residents of Kerekatte in Sringeri taluk of Chikkamagaluru district stage a protest blocking the National Highway, after two villagers were killed in an elephant attack, on Friday. DH PHOTO

CHIKKAMAGALURU, DHNS

Two men were killed on the spot after an elephant attacked them while they were collecting fodder near Kerekatte in Sringeri taluk on Friday.

Enraged over the incident, locals staged a protest by blocking traffic on the national highway demanding immediate action from the Forest Department.

The deceased have been identified as Umesh Gowda (54) and Harish Shetty (53), both residents of Keregadde near Kerekatte. Harish Shetty was the president of the BJP Shakti Kendra in Kerekatte. The two had reportedly gone to collect fodder from the forest adjacent to their homes, which are located near the Kudremukh National Park, when the elephant attacked them.

Upon learning about the tragedy, locals gathered in large numbers and launched a protest, blocking vehicular movement on the Sringeri–Karkala National Highway at Kerekatte for several hours.

MLA TD Rajegowda, Deputy Commissioner Meena Nagaraj, Superintendent of Police Vikram Amathe, and Chief Conservator of Forests Karikalan rushed to the spot and attempted to pacify the protesters.

The agitators demanded that Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre visit the spot and that Rs 50 lakh compensation be provided to each of the victims' families.

Traffic remained disrupted from morning till evening as talks continued. Eventually, it was decided that the government would provide Rs 20 lakh compensation per family, while MLA and local leaders would contribute an additional Rs 5 lakh each, bringing the total relief to Rs 25 lakh per family.

Following this assurance, the locals withdrew their protest.

Farmer dies in 3rd tiger attack in fortnight

A farmer died due to a tiger attack in Sargur taluk of Mysuru district on Friday. This is the third tiger attack in two weeks and second death in the taluk, in a week, reports DHNS from Mysuru.

The farmer Doddaningaiah (53) died under Moleyur range of Hediyala Wildlife Division of Bandipur Tiger Reserve (BTR) at Koodagi village of Sargur taluk. The incident is said to have occurred when he was grazing sheep.

Wildlife veterinarian Dr Ramesh said that this tiger is different from the tiger which killed Rajashekar (65) near Bennegere of Sargur taluk on Monday. The operation has continued to rescue it.

Another tiger attacked farmer Madegowda, 43, on his face at Badagalapura on the fringes of Nugu Wildlife Range of Bandipur, near Badagalapura of Saragur taluk on October 16. It injured him severely and he lost his eye sight.

Bidar: Rabid wolf injures 3

A suspected rabid wolf attacked four persons at Santhpur in Aurad range of Bidar district on Friday. A woman suffered serious injuries after the wolf bit her, while two women and a boy suffered minor injuries. They have been shifted to Bidar Institute of Medical Sciences (BRIMS) for treatment.

According to Bidar Deputy Conservator of Forests Ashish Reddy a lone ranger wolf attacked three persons in Aurad range on Friday evening. "It is very rare that wolves attack human. We are suspecting that this wolf could be infected with rabies as its behavior was different."

He said forest department officials are helping the injured persons to reach BRIMS and the entire cost of the treatment will be borne by the department.

Reddy said the department will start combing the area where the attack took place to capture the wolf.

"We will setup nets and deploy other methods to capture the wolf, which is moving near human habitat, so that it does not create further conflict," he said.

Bidar has sizable population of wolves in the State.

CM wants varsities named after social reformers

BENGALURU, DHNS: Expressing his wish to name public universities after transformative social reformers such as saint-poet Basavanna, poet and philosopher Kanakadasa, Mysuru Maharaja Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar and former Chief Minister D Devaraj Urs, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has instructed the Chief Secretary to table the subject for discussion at the next Cabinet meeting.

'Nandini' snacks at all govt events

BENGALURU, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has ordered that snacks of state-run "Nandini" brand of Karnataka Milk Federation must be served at all meetings and programmes of government departments, including his own office. In a note to chief secretary, the CM also asked that plastic bottles be replaced with eco-friendly materials at all public offices and their events.

◆ WEATHER ◆

Overview: Rainfall occurred at many places over South Interior and North Interior Karnataka and most places over Coastal Karnataka
Forecast Nov 01: Rainfall to occur at some places over the state.

INTERIOR NORTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Belagavi	26.8	19.4	00
Bidar	29	18	00
Vijayapura	30.5	19.5	00
Dharwad	27.6	19.5	2.4
Haveri	27.8	19.6	00
Kalaburagi	31.4	19.6	00
Raichur	31.4	18.6	00
COASTAL			
Honnavar	31.6	23.7	03
Karwar	31.3	24	8.7
Shirali	NA	NA	NA
Mangaluru	31.4	24.2	0.4

INTERIOR SOUTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Agumbe	27.5	21.6	00
Bengaluru	28.5	18.9	00
Ballari	NA	NA	NA
Chamarajanagar	NA	NA	NA
Chikkamagaluru	NA	NA	NA
Chitradurga	29.1	18	00
Davangere	30	18	00
Hassan	29.1	NA	00
Mysuru	30	17	00
Madikeri	NA	NA	NA
Kolar	29.6	16.8	00
OTHER STATIONS			
New Delhi	27	21.6	00
Kolkata	31.8	25.2	14
Mumbai	30.3	24.2	07
Chennai	34.5	25.5	00
Pune	29.2	19.4	0.3
Hyderabad	29.6	21.5	00
Th'puram	32.8	23.7	00

Treats for year-end parties

The season for throwing parties at home is here. Chefs Oggarane Dabbi Murali and wife Suchithra have a couple of tongue ticklers you can rustle up.

Chefs Suchithra and Murali

Chikpete Kaal Soup

What you need:

- 6 each of paya and cloves
- 2 inch sticks of ginger and cinnamon
- 3 star anise
- 4 pods cardamom
- 2 bay leaves
- 1 tbsp each of pepper and turmeric powder
- 1 whole garlic and onion
- 8 green chillies
- 5 sprigs each of mint and coriander
- Juice of ½ lime
- 2 tbsps of oil

Prepare in advance:

Peel the onion, garlic and ginger. Slice the onion and ginger, crush the garlic and reserve. Wash and slit the green chilies. Clean and roughly chop mint and coriander reserve. Saute the leg pieces and onions in two teaspoons of oil and turmeric in a large pressure cooker.

Add eight cups of water in a pressure cooker, cover and cook for six whistles on high flame reserve. You can also cook the paya on the night before and prepare the soup for the next day.

Preparation:

To the half cooked paya, add sliced onion, crushed garlic, ginger, bay leaf, cloves, cinnamon, star anise and cardamom. Cover and cook for four more whistles. Once the paya has cooked, strain the soup using a colander. Discard the ginger, garlic, onion and spices. Add the soup and the trotter in a heavy bottom pot or transfer to the same pressure cooker, bring to rapid boil, add salt to taste and the pepper powder, and allow it to boil for 10 minutes.

Garnish the soup with mint, coriander and lime juice. Serve the paya soup hot with pav bun or bread.

Street Keema Vade

What you need:

- ½ kg mince meat
- 2 medium onions (finely chopped)
- Fist full of mint and coriander (finely chopped)
- 2 tablespoons of roasted Bengal gram (powdered)
- 1 tbsp each of ghee, ginger-garlic paste, chilli powder and garam masala
- 5 green chillies (finely chopped), 1 egg
- Oil for frying and salt to taste

Preparation:

In a mixing bowl add meat mince, onion, chilli powder, garam masala, finely-chopped mint and coriander, ginger and garlic paste, chillies and egg. Do not mix right away. Heat ghee in a frying pan on low flame, add the Bengal gram flour and allow it to fry till it foams a bit. Add the gram flour mixture to the meat, add salt to taste and mix all the ingredients till well-combined and allow it to marinate for an hour before frying.

After an hour, heat oil in a wok on medium flame. Once the oil is hot and ready for frying, take lime-sized portions of the meat, flatten a bit, drop into the hot oil, toss gently and fry on both sides till golden brown.

Drain the excess oil and serve hot as a starter or side dish with a south Indian meal.

Curated by DH Brandspot

Scan this QR code to catch all the cooking action

Freedom Healthy Cooking Oils presents cuisines of karnataka Season 4

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ON THE MARCH

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) activists take out a route march in Gurumitkal of Yadgir district on Friday. The district administration granted conditional permission to the RSS for the route march. Residents showered petals on the Swayamsevaks who took out the march holding lathis. DH PHOTO

Question on DKS' 'Nov coronation' riles Siddu

Siddaramaiah, from Page 1

It is further speculated that Shivakumar has set a 'deadline' for himself to fulfil his chief ministerial ambition.

Shivakumar has maintained restraint by not publicly confronting Siddaramaiah or his camp members.

Asked about Shivakumar's 'deadline', Social Welfare Minister H C Mahadevappa, a Siddaramaiah loyalist, said: "How will I be privy to such big matters? Only the CM, party president (Shivakumar) and the high command will know."

Housing Minister B Z Zameer Ahmed Khan, also a Siddaramaiah camper, urged Shivakumar to aspire for the CM's post after 2028.

"Siddaramaiah will be the CM until 2028," Zameer said. Zameer went on to dismiss the idea that Shivakumar would join hands with the BJP if he is denied the CM post. "Shivakumar has Congress in his blood. It is natural for Shivakumar, like many others, to have chief ministerial aspirations. If Shivakumar becomes the CM after Siddaramaiah, we will be happy for him. But the seat isn't vacant until 2028," he said.

Dalit CM: 'Party may be waiting, watching'

Amid demands for a Dalit to become the CM in the event of Siddaramaiah being replaced, Mahadevappa said that the Congress high command "may be waiting and watching".

"Our movement (on Dalit CM) will continue. But it's the high command that should decide on when it will happen," Mahadevappa said. "Nobody has said that a Dalit can't or won't become the CM."

Mahadevappa maintained that the Congress top brass "is in favour of Dalits" while adding: "Only Dalits, untouchables know their pain."

Bengaluru East City Corporation

Office of the Commissioner, RHB Colony, Opp. Pheonix Mall,
Whitefield Main Road, Mahadevapura Post, Bengaluru-560048

Add.Com(D)/PR/05/2025-26 Date:30-10-2025

Notice Inviting Expression of Interest

Bengaluru East City Corporation Invites Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from qualified, experienced, and reputable agencies to provide end-to-end public relations, media management, digital communications, and brand-building services for city corporation. The objective is to establish a professional, always-on communications system that proactively promotes positive civic outcomes, rapidly manages issues and crisis, engages citizens, and builds a strong, trustworthy brand across Bengaluru.

Important: This EOI is for shortlisting. The Bidder has to give a **PPT** about proposal and also with Estimates for a year. Based on the submission a RFP will be prepared for further tender process on the Government e-Procurement portal.

Key dates : • Release of EOI: **01.11.2025,** • EOI submission deadline: **10-11-2025, 17:00** IST, • Date of presentation will be communicated later.

Submission mode: • The signed hard copy of the PDF must be submitted to the **The Commissioner Bengaluru East City Corporation, RHB Colony, Opp. Pheonix Mall, Whitefield Main Road, Mahadevapura Post, Bengaluru-560048** and soft copy should be emailed to **commissioner.becc@gmail.com**

Background & Objectives :

Bengaluru east city corporation manages critical urban services (roads, SWM, storm water drains, health, education, lakes, town planning, animal husbandry, etc.). Bengaluru's scale, rapid growth, and digital-savvy population require a professional communications function that:

(1) Builds trust through transparent, timely, accurate information. **(2) Promotes positive civic outcomes** and success stories. **(3) Neutralises misinformation/negative narratives** with facts, context and empathy (no manipulation). **(4) Engages citizens** across languages (Kannada first; also English and others as relevant). **(5) Creates and sustains a strong** brand aligned to service excellence.

Scope of Work :

A. Strategy, Governance & War-Room : • Set up a 24×7 Communications War-Roomat HQ (on-site team with the officials). • Create master Communications Strategy (12-month +90-day plan), channel mix, message house, and brand pillars. • Establish SOPs for approvals, asset management, and response protocols. • Create Crisis Communications Playbook (flooding, vector-borne disease outbreaks, road safety incidents, waste management flare-ups, protests, etc.) and conduct quarterly drills. • Weekly review with Commissioner; monthly Steering Committee with heads of departments (HoDs).

B. Media Relations (Print/TV/Radio/Online)

• Build/maintain segmented media database (local/Kannada, regional, national, hyperlocal, civic beat). • Draft and disseminate press notes, FAQs, media kits; organise press briefings, ground visits, editor roundtables. • **Positive coverage**: Identify newsworthy opportunities, case studies, project milestones, "before-after" stories. • **Issues management:** Rapid factual briefs, corrections, and context notes to neutralise misinformation/negative news. • Monitor coverage; provide **daily media briefs** and **weekly analytics** (reach, sentiment, share of voice, themes).

C. Digital & Social Media (Owned/Earned/Shared)

• Operate official handles (Kannada & English mandatory) on X, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, others as required. • **Content factory:** Daily posts, reels, shorts, explainers, infographics, carousels, motion graphics; subtitling/captions in Kannada & English. • **Always-on community management:** Acknowledge, triage, and route citizen complaints to city corporation systems; provide closure updates (where permissible). • **Social listening:** Real-time alerts on trending topics, misinformation spikes, influencer chatter; hourly dashboards in crisis. • **Campaigns:** Behaviour-change (tax compliance, waste segregation, dengue prevention, lake stewardship), service updates (ward works, SWD works, pothole fixes), emergency advisories (rain/flood). • **Accessibility:** Alt-text, subtitles, screen-reader friendly posts.

D. Brand Building & Creative

• Develop Brand Guidelines (visual identity refresh if required), tone of voice, photography style, iconography. • Design templates for press notes, circulars, public notices, hoardings, bus-shelter ads, posters, field signage. • Produce campaign assets (key visuals, video films, testimonials, animations, jingles). • Curate **" Impact"** stories: human-centred narratives showcasing citizen benefits and staff excellence.

E. Influencer & Community Partnerships

• Ethical engagement with RWAs, civic groups, domain experts, micro-influencers (Kannada creators).

F. Training & Capacity Building

• Media training for senior officials; spokesperson SOPs. • Workshops for ward-level staff on photo/video capture, basic messaging, and citizen updates.

G. Measurement & KPIs : • Baselines; monthly/quarterly targets for:

° Share of voice & positive/neutral/negative split. ° Response times (alerts, acknowledgements, first factual rebuttal). ° Engagement rate & completion rate (video). ° Campaign outcomes (reach to target wards, call-to-action fulfilment). ° Media quality scores (tier-1/2/3, headline framing, accuracy).

• Quarterly impact report with recommendations.

H. Compliance, Ethics & Data Protection

• Comply with applicable laws, including IT Act and the Digital Personal Data **Protection Act, 2023;** consent-based data use. • No fake news, bots, deepfakes, or deceptive practices. • Responsible Generative-AI use: human review for facts/law/policy; watermarking/metadata where feasible.

Deliverables (Illustrative Minimums)

• War-Room setup: within 30 days of LoA. • Daily: media scan & key alerts; social posts (min. 2 per platform; crisis posts as needed). • Weekly: analytics report; editorial calendar; 1 long-form story/video. • Monthly: campaign report, 1 explainer film (2–4 min), 5 infographics, 1 newsletter. • Quarterly: crisis drill; brand audit update; stakeholder roundtable. • As needed: press conferences, myth-buster notes within 6 hours of trigger; first response to major issues within 60 minutes (working hours) / 120 minutes (off-hours).

Teaming & Manpower (Minimum On-Site)

• Digital Lead (1) – 7+ yrs, platform strategy & performance. • Content Editors (Kannada & English) (2) – 5+ yrs each. • Designers (1) – static + motion graphics. • Video Producer/Editor (1). • Community Managers (2) – triage, routing, documentation. (Additional off-site bench as needed; clear substitution/back-up plan.)

Eligibility (Pre-Qualification)

(1) Legal Entity: Company/LLP/Registered Partnership with 3+ years of operations in India. **(2) Experience**: Minimum 3 integrated mandates (media + digital) in last 5 years for government/ULBs/PSUs/large enterprises; at least 1 must be civic/urban/public-service. **(3) Team Capability**: In-house Kannada editorial capability (proof required). **(4) Financials:** Positive net worth in any two of last three FYs; average annual turnover ≥ INR 5 crore from communications services (audited). **(5) Compliance:** GST, PAN, PF/ESI registrations; self-declaration of no blacklisting/no conflict of interest. **(6) Office Presence:** Ability to deploy on-site team in Bengaluru within 30 days of LoA. (Bengaluru East City Corporation *may relax/modify thresholds at its discretion to widen participation.)*

RFP (Next Stage) – Indicative Requirements (for awareness)

• Detailed Scope, SLAs, and Performance-Linked Payments (e.g., 10–20% variable). • **IPR:** All deliverables /work-for-hire; perpetual, exclusive Bengaluru east city corporation ownership. • **Data & confidentiality:** Non-disclosure, security standards, data locality if applicable. • **Conflict of Interest:** Agency/affiliates shall not represent vendors/contractors bidding for Bengaluru east city corporation works during contract period. • **Contract period:** 2 years + 1 year extension (performance-based). • **Penalty regime:** SLA breaches, misrepresentation, data/privacy violations. • **Exit/transition plan**

EOI Submission Format (Single PDF + Annexures)

Covering Letter (Form-1) on letterhead, signed by authorised signatory. **Agency Profile** (Form-2): legal status, registrations, shareholding, office addresses. **Eligibility Checklist & Documents (Form-3):** CoI, no-blacklisting, GST/PAN, PF/ESI, audited financials (last 3 Fys). Experience Statements (Form-4): case studies with client name, scope, period, contact references. **Team CVs (Form-5):** on-site roles, Kannada/English proficiency. **Approach & Methodology Note (max 12 pages):** strategy, war-room, crisis playbook outline, Kannada-first plan, KPI framework, tools stack, sample monthly calendar. **Declarations (Form-6/7):** conflict of interest, data privacy & ethics. **Annexures**: any awards/certifications, sample creatives (links), tool screenshots. **Do not include fees/price** in the EOI. Any financial information may lead to rejection.

Service Levels (to be finalised at RFP/Contract)

• **Response time to major issue trigger**: ≤ 60 mins (working), ≤ 120 mins (off-hours). • **Myth-buster/factual note:** ≤ 6 hours from escalation. • **Daily deliverables:** By 09:30 & 18:00 (media/social briefs). • **Monthly report:** By 5th working day. • **Uptime:** Social listening and alerting 24×7 during monsoon and other declared critical windows.

Ethics & Brand Safety

• Strict adherence to law; no paid editorials disguised as news; no purchase of followers/bots; no fake accounts or deceptive endorsements. • Transparent disclosure for sponsored content. • Respect for citizen privacy; sensitive content redaction; consent for testimonials. • Generative-AI outputs must be fact-checked; no deepfakes or impersonations.125

Rights of Bengaluru East City Corporation

• Bengaluru east city corporation reserves the right to accept/reject any/all EOIs without assigning reasons; to verify information; to alter scope; to cancel the process. Submission does not guarantee shortlisting or award.

Clarifications : Pre-bid queries only by email (subject: EOI – Media & Communications Agency). Responses will be published on the e-Procurement portal/GBA website.

Validity : EOI shall remain valid for **120 days** from the submission deadline.

Annexures (Templates)

Form-1: Covering Letter (on Letterhead) : • EOI reference & date; confirmation of interest; validity; authorisation; no blacklisting; acceptance of terms; signature.

Form-2: Agency Profile : • Legal name; CIN/LLPIN; year of incorporation; GST, PAN; registered & Bengaluru office addresses; contact person details.

Form-3: Eligibility Checklist : • Incorporation proof; 3+ years operations (Yes/No) • Turnover (≥ INR 5 Cr avg over last 3 FYs) – attach audited statements • Kannada editorial in-house – attach profiles • Govt/ULB/PSU/Enterprise experience – attach work orders/completion certificates • PF/ESI, GST, PAN – attach copies • No-blacklisting self-declaration

Form-4: Experience Statements (Case Studies) : • Client; period; objective; scope; languages; outcomes (reach, SOV, sentiment, media quality); client reference.

Form-5: Team Cvs : • Role; years of experience; Kannada/English proficiency; certifications; 2 best works (links).

Form-6: No-Blacklisting & Litigation Declaration

Form-7: Conflict of Interest & Data Privacy Declaration

Indicative KPI Dashboard (for RFP stage) : • **Reach & SOV** • **Sentiment:** + / 0 / – split (media & social); trendlines by theme (SWM, roads, SWD, health). • **Responsiveness:** Avg. time to alert, first response, factual note; % triaged within SLA. • **Engagement:** ER per post type; video completion; ward-level distribution. • **Campaign outcomes:** e.g., tax payment clicks, waste-segregation pledge counts, dengue hotline calls. • **Quality:** Fact-accuracy rate, correction rate, headline framing improvements.

Sd/- Commissioner
Bengaluru East City Corporation, GBA

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA NIYAMITHA
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)

Office of the Executive Engineer,
K.R.S.M. & M.I.P. Division,
Malavalli -571430, Mandya Dist
E-mail : eekrsmmlydn@gmail.com

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
NO - 10/2025-26 DATED : 30-10-2025

Short Term Tender Notification No.10/2025-26, Dated:30.10.2025 are invited on KPP Portal as per KW-4/6 for 01 work Estimated cost is Rs.293.47 crore by the Executive Engineer, K.R.S.M & M.I.P. Division, Malavalli. The Tenders are through KPPP platform only. The tender documents can be obtained from the Website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in. For More information contact the office of under signed during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
CNNL, KRSM & MIP Division, Malavally.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(PUBLIC WORKS, DEPT.)

No. PWD/BGM/TND/TA/AE/2025-26/5445 Date:31.10.2025

-ITEM RATE TENDER NOTIFICATION (KPP PORTAL):-

The Executive Engineer, PWD Belagavi Division Belagavi invites item ratetenders from the eligible contractors registered in KPP Portal in Public Works Department under KW-1,2,3 & 4 Standard tender documents for a work under 3054 SH Maintenance, 3054 MDR Maintenance, 5054 SH Improvement, 2059 Suvarna Soudha building maintenance, 4059 Department Buildings total 07 number of works with minimum and maximum tender amounts of Rs.19.62 Lakhs and Rs.118.65 Lakhs respectively and minimum and maximum EMD amount of Rs. 24,600/- and Rs.1,78,000/- Part-1:Tender receipt Date is on 07.11.2025 up to 4.30 PM , Technical Bid Opening Date is on 10.11.2025 after 4.45 PM Part-2: Tender receipt Date is on 17.11.2025 up to 4.30 PM and Technical Bid Opening Date is on 18.11.2025 after 4.45PM, Part-3:Tender receipt Date is on 24.11.2025 up to 4.30 PM , Technical Bid Opening Date is on 25.11.2025 after 4.45 PM Part-4: Auction Receipt Date is on 07.11.2025 at 11.00AM (For Auction work participants should deposit DD of Rs.1000/- towards in the name of Assistant Executive Engineer PWD Sub Division Suvarna Soudha). For more information contact the office of the undersigned and www.Kppp.karnataka.gov.in after 31.10.2025.(Note:1) If no bids received, 3 days One Time auto extension activated.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department. Belagavi Dn. Belagavi.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1250/KSMCA/2025-26

Shivamogga – Bhadravathi Urban Development Authority, Shivamogga

Commercial Complex, 100 feet road, Vinobanagar,
Shivamogga-577204. Phone: 08182-249867, 249280
website: www.shivamogga.uda.gov.in

No.: SBUDA/CA/Allotment-3/2025-26 Date:29-10-2025

Public Notice for Allotment of Civic Amenity Sites/Plots

Applications are invited for the civic amenity sites reserved for public utility/amenity in the Authority/Private Layout within the jurisdiction of the Shivamogga–Bhadravati Urban Development Authority. The sites will be allotted on a 30-year lease basis to cooperative societies or educational, religious, and charitable trusts registered under the Karnataka Cooperative Societies Act, 1960, as per the Karnataka Urban Development Authorities (Civic Amenity Sites Allocation) Rules, 1991. Application Form–1 for registration and Application Form–2 for site approval can be obtained from the office of the Shivamogga–Bhadravati Urban Development Authority from 03-11-2025 to 02-12-2025 up to 3:00 PM, on payment of a fee of Rs. 500.00. Applications duly filled in with details in Form–1 and Form–2 can be submitted in person or by registered post to the office of the Shivamogga–Bhadravati Urban Development Authority, Shivamogga, on or before 5:00 PM on 10-12-2025. Details, instructions, and special instructions regarding the civic amenity plots/sites available for allotment can be obtained from the Authority's website: www.shivamogga.uda.gov.in or by contacting the Authority's office.

Sd/- (Vishwanath P. Mudajji)
Commissioner,
Sd/- (H.S. Sundaresh B.E)
Chairman,
Shivamogga – Bhadravathi Urban Development Authority, Shivamogga.

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/140/10/1170

Bengaluru Central City Corporation

Office of the Executive Engineer,
Bengaluru Central City Corporation, Shanthinagara Division, 9th Floor, PUB, Bengaluru-560 001.

No. EE/SN/TEND/10/2025-26 Date: 31.10.2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Quality and Cost Based Selection) (Two Cover System)
(Through GOK KPP Portal) **website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only**

The Executive Engineer, (Shanthinagara Division), BCCC Bengaluru invites Bids for the following service from reputed Consultants. **Consultancy Services for Project Management Consultant (PMC)** for the below works.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Project Cost in Crores	EMD Amount (in ₹.)
1.	Comprehensive Development of Roads, Drains, Culverts, Footpath and Providing Street Name Boards in Ward No.167 of Shanthinagara sub division (Total 6 No of Works, Govt. Sl.No. 7,8,9,10,11 and 12) Package-02.	5.50	13,750/-
2.	Comprehensive Development of Roads, Drains and Footpath in Ward No.169 and 170 of Domlur sub division (Total 6 No of Works, Govt. Sl.No. 13,14,15,16,17 and 18) Package-03.	6.00	15,000/-
3.	Comprehensive Development of Roads, Drains, Footpath and Improvements to Dhobhighat in Ward No.171 and 172 of Domlur sub division (Total 6 No of Works,Govt. Sl.No. 19,20,21,22,23 and 24) Package-04.	8.00	20,000/-

Calendar of Events: (1) Availability of RFP documents date : **04.11.2025 onwards. (2)** Pre bid meeting will be held on **10.11.2025 at 3:30 p.m.** in the Office of the Chief Engineer Central Zone-1, 18th Floor, Public Utility Building, Bengaluru-560 001. **(3)** Last date for submission of tender documents on or before **13.11.2025 upto 4:00 p.m. (4)** Technical Bids will be opened on **14.11.2025 at 4:30 p.m.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Shanthinagara Division.

(Govt. of Karnataka)
KARNATAKA MEDICAL COLLEGE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE, HUBLI

KMCRI/FA/FO/89/2025-26 Date:30-10-2025

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಇಲ್ಲಿನ ಉಳಿತಾಯ ಮೊತ್ತವನ್ನು ಠೇವಣಿ ಇಡಲು ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಕೃತ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನವರಿಗೆ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ವೈಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– (ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು),
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ.

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Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur

(Govt. Autonomous Institution)
Hydrabad Road, Raichur -584102 Phone /Fax-08532-238488/89
www.rims-raichur.karnataka.gov.in info@rims-raichur.com

No. RIMS/SUP/TEND/2025-26/ Dated: 30.10.2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for Supply of Equipments to Department of Paediatrics, RIMS Teaching Hospital, RIMS Raichur under two cover bid system through E-Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka.

Sl. No	Tender Details	Tender No	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)
1	Supply of Equipments to Department of Paediatrics, RIMS Teaching Hospital, Raichur	RIMS/SUP/TEND/EQP/11/2025-26 DME/2025-26/IND1809	149.88

1) Tender document may be download from E-procurement portal of the Govt. of Karnataka from 31.10.2025 2) Tender must be submitted online through E-procurement portal on or before 14.11.2025 upto 5.00 PM 3) Technical bid will be opened on 17.11.2025 at 11.30 AM

Further information may be obtained from above office and from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- Director
Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur

DIP/RCR/498/KSMC&A/499/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE JOINT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE,

KALABURAGI, Phone: 08472-278630, Email: jdakalaburagi@gmail.com

File No: AD/Agri/Tender/Cold Storage/KKRDB/1/2025-26 Date: 30-10-2025

E–Procurement Tender Notification

Under the Kalyana Karnataka Region Development Board (KKRDB) Mega Macro Project for the year 2025-26, tenders are invited for the work of Construction of Cold Storage and Other Paraphernalia Chittapur Taluk of Kalaburagi District on a turnkey basis under **KKRDB (Macro) 2022-23 and KKRDB (Macro) 2024-25**.

Eligible contractors registered with the Department of Agriculture are requested to submit their bids through e-procurement on the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal.

Sl.No 1) Particulars: Tender No. AD/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT146, 2) Estimated Cost : **Rs.9,98,21,673.00** (Chittapur Taluk). 3) Tender Download Start Date : **30.10.2025, 2:00** PM. 4) Last Date for Submission of Bids **: 07.11.2025, 4:30** PM. 5) Opening of Technical Bids : **10.11.2025, 11:00 AM,** Office of the Joint Director of Agriculture Kalaburagi, 6) EMD (Earnest Money Deposit) : **Rs.10,00,000/-** (Rupees Ten Lakhs only). 7) Address for Correspondence : Joint Director of Aggriculture, Kalaburagi. Phone : 08472-278630. 8) Website for e-Tender Submission: **https:// kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For any clarification or technical assistance regarding tender submission, contact the office of Joint Director of Agriculture, Kalaburagi.

Sd/- Joint Director of Agriculture, Kalaburagi.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/662/2025-26/Deshpande Publicity

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Office Of the Deputy Commissioner,
District Urban Development Cell, Vijayapura District, Vijayapura.

Phone No:08352-259855, Email: ka.vijapura.dudc@gmail.com
Office Website: www.vijayapuradudc.mrc.gov.in

No: DUDC-5/NGRTH-4/Tender/CR-01/2025-26 Dated:31.10.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, DUDC Vijayapura invites Chief Minister Amrut Nagarothan (municipality) Phase-4 project works Tender in two cover system using KW-1 To 4 Documents for KPWD Registered Contractors and details

1)TMC Basavan Bagewadi Indent No: DMA/2025-26/OW/ WORK_INDENT47120/CALL-3 Amount: 50.00 Lakhs.

Contractors who wish to participate in tender can download and submit the tenders through e-Procurement portal at www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in For any clarification contact EE / AEE on working hours at office. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:

1) Last Date for submission of tenders Date: 07-11-2025 up to 17.00 hrs.
2) Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids) Date: 10-11-2025 after 17.30 hrs
3) Date of Opening of Tenders (Financial Bids) Date: 13-11-2025 at 11.00 am afterwards

Addendum / Corrigendum of tenders is only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
District Urban Development Cell, Vijayapur.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/425/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಧಾರವಾಡ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರವರ ಕಚೇರಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ.

ಕ್ರಸಂ: ಕಾನಿಇಂಧಾ/ಗುತ್ತಿಕೆ/2025–26/ 3600 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 30.10.2025

ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ

I.F.T – KW – 1, 2, 3 & 4

ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡರವರು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕೆ.ಟಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ 2000 ರನ್ವಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೆ ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ–1, 2, 3 & 4 ರ ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. **kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ದ್ವಿ–ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ:ರಾಜ್ಯ ವಿಪತ್ತು ಉಪಶಮನ ನಿಧಿ (SDMF) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 1000.00 ಲಕ್ಷದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ವಿಪತ್ತು ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ ಧಾರವಾಡ, ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡ ರವರ ಪತ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕ್ರಸಿಎಎಲ್/ಸಿಆರ್– 176/2024–25/ಇ–308973 **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28.07.2025** ರಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳು, ಕಂದಾಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ(ವಿಪತ್ತು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ), ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇಕಡಾ 60 ರಷ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳಿಸಿ, ಅನುದಾನ ಬಳಕೆಯಾದ ನಂತರ ಬಾಕಿ ಅನುದಾನವನ್ನು ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡುವುದಾಗಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಲು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳು, ಕಂದಾಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ(ವಿಪತ್ತು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ), ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ರವರ ಟಿಪ್ಪಣಿ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16.07.2025** ರಲ್ಲಿರುವ ನಿರ್ದೇಶನಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡಿರುವ ಷರತ್ತಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಹಾಗೂ ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ: 5054–04–337–0–01–154 ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ರಸ್ತೆ ಸುಧಾರಣೆ, 2025–26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 5054–08–190–0–01–132 (KRDCL FUND), 4059–80–051–0–29–386 ಇಲಾಖಾ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ, 5054–80–190–0–01–132 ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮುಖ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆ ಸೇತುವೆಗಳು, ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ, 2216–07–053–0–01–200, 2059–80–053–4–00–200 ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಅಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿದೆ.

ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ: 1)PWD/2025-26/BR/WORK_INDENT22215/CALL-2, 2)PWD/2025-26/IND0140/Call-2 3) PWD/2025-26/SE0533, **CAT-I** 1) PWD/2025-26/BG/WORK_INDENT27739/CALL-2.
Calander of Events: 1)ಪ್ರಿಬಿಡ್ ಮಿಟಿಂಗ್/ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12.11.2025** ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **12:30** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ 2)ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.11.2025** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **04:00** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ 3) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ:17.11.2025** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **04:30** ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ 4) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18.11.2025** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **04:30** ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ.

ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ: 1)PWD/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT19499, 2)PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT 26390 (Extension), 3)PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_ INDENT22668(Extension), 4)PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT 22667(Extension), 5)PWD/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT20855/CALL-2, PWD/2024-25/BD /WORK_ INDENT20044/CALL-3, PWD/2025-26/ EL/WORK_INDENT 23007/ CALL-2.
Calander of Events: 1)ಪ್ರಿಬಿಡ್ ಮಿಟಿಂಗ್/ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.11.2025** ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **12:30** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ 2)ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 27.11.2025** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **04:00** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ 3)ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28.11.2025** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **04:30** ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ 4)ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29.11.2025** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **04:30** ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ.

ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ: 1)PWD/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT27630 2) PWD/2025-26/BR/WORK_INDENT28085.
Calander of Events: 1)ಪ್ರಿಬಿಡ್ ಮಿಟಿಂಗ್/ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01.12.2025** ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **12:30** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ 2)ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05.12.2025** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **04:00** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ 3)ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06.12.2025** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **04:30** ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ 4)ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 08.12.2025** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **04:30** ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ.

ಈ ಮೇಲ್ಕಾಣಿಸಿದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂದಿಸಿದ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಅಂತರಜಾಲ ವಿಳಾಸ **kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಲೋಕೊಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಧಾರವಾಡ ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಚೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಕಚೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡ ವಿಭಾಗ,
ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಇ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/817/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ/2025–26 ಧಾರವಾಡ.

COUNTER

"A huge electoral fraud has been committed in Bihar through the SIR. There are still 5 lakh duplicate voters in the electoral rolls. Besides, there are about a lakh voters whose names are not known... I must say that Gyanesh Kumar, the Chief Election Commissioner, is working as an agent of the BJP... What was the purpose of the SIR ? Names of foreign nationals, infiltrators, Bangladeshis and Rohingyas were supposed to be detected and deleted from the SIR... now the EC is not talking about these issues.

Sanjay Singh
AAP leader

V/S

Under the leadership of Shri Modi ji and Shri Nitish ji, the NDA is determined to build a 'Developed Bihar'. Today, the NDA has released its manifesto to accelerate the reach of development to every section of Bihar"

Amit Shah
BJP leader

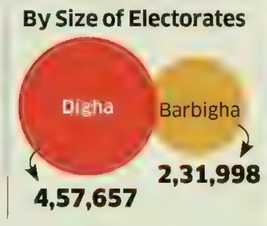
2025 POLLS IN NUMBERS

Constituencies By Area

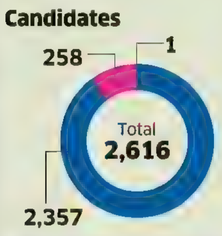
Largest: Chainpur
1,814.15 sq km

Smallest: Bankipur
16.23 sq km

By Size of Electorates



Candidates



Phase	M	F	T
1	1,192	122	0
2	1,165	136	1

■ Male ■ Female ■ Transgender

No of candidates

22 Highest: Chainpur, Sasara, Gaya Town

05 Lowest: Bhorey, Alauli, Parbatta, Lauriya, Chanpatia, Raxaul, Sugaili, Triveniganj, Banmankhi

Poll diary

TMC warns of legal action if genuine voters deleted in SIR

The TMC on Friday warned of legal action and a mass movement if names of genuine voters are found deleted during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls in West Bengal. Addressing a virtual meeting attended by nearly 15,000 party functionaries, party leader Abhishek Banerjee accused the BJP of using the process to "silently rig" the upcoming elections.

MCC violation: RJD writes to EC over money transfer

RJD MP Manoj Jha wrote to the Election Commission (EC) on Friday, accusing the Bihar government of violating the Model Code of Conduct by transferring money to women under the Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana on October 17, 24 and 31. Jha also said the next proposed date for disbursement is November 7 —four days before the second phase of polling in Bihar.

Fight between RJD's dark era, NDA's bright era: Nadda

BJP president J P Nadda on Friday asserted that the Bihar polls will be a fight between "the dark era of RJD's jungle raj" and "the bright streak of development" under the NDA. Addressing a rally in Patna, Nadda said Bihar has come on the track of development under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi and CM Nitish Kumar.

CONSTITUENCY WATCH

CHETAN ANAND
JD(U)
2020: Did not contest

AMOD KUMAR SINGH
RJD
2020: Did not contest

How clash of 'bahubalis' led to brutal murder

Mokama has a long history of clashes between the musclemen from the upper caste Bhumihar community and Yadavs

ABHAY KUMAR
PATNA

Within an hour of Prime Minister Narendra Modi narrating the horror tales of 'Jungle Raj' during the Lalu-Rabri era in Muzaffarpur on Thursday, gunshots rent the air in nearby Mokama, where the suspected supporters of JD(U) nominee Anant Singh gunned down Dularchand Yadav, a supporter of the Jan Suraaj party.

Dularchand Yadav

Dularchand, a muscleman-turned-politician, has been close to both Nitish Kumar and Lalu Prasad, but was rooting for his nephew Piyush Priyardarshi, who was contesting as Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraaj candidate.

Anant, on the other hand, had an uninterrupted run since 2005, until conviction in a UAPA case in 2022 led to his disqualification. However, the acquittal in the case has led to the strongman's return as the JD(U) nominee for the Mokama seat.

On Friday evening, Piyush was returning after campaigning while Anant's cavalcade was coming from the opposite side. Eyewitnesses said one of Anant's supporters stopped his Thar vehicle and parked it diagonally near Baswan Chowk, thereby blocking Piyush's cavalcade.

Dularchand reportedly objected to this 'one-upmanship' of Anant's men, saying, "If Anant Singh is called 'Chote Sarkar' (younger government), my nephew Piyush is 'Bade Sarkar' (elder government)."

The verbal altercation escalated, and 12 rounds of gunfire ensued. The 75-year-old Dularchand was first shot in his leg and then in his palm. When he fell down, Anant Singh's supporters reportedly ran over an SUV over him, killing him on the spot and injuring 12 others, including the Jan Suraaj candidate, Piyush.

Heavy police were deployed after the bloody incident. "The Rural SP Vikram Sihag is camping there... Raids will be carried out to apprehend those behind the killing," said Senior SP of Patna, Kartikey Sharma.

"An FIR has been lodged by Dularchand's grandson, who has named Anant Singh, JD(U) nominee, his two kin Ranvir and Karamvir, besides Chotan Singh and Kanjay Singh in the murder case," said a police source.

The Election Commission on Friday also sought a report from the Bihar director general of police over the incident.

Anant, however, denied any role in killing and blamed RJD candidate Veena Devi, wife of another muscleman-turned-politician Surajbhan Singh. "What rubbish? We have no role to play in the war between Anant's men and Jan Suraaj's candidate," Veena said. Amid tensions, stones were pelted at her car on Friday.

Dularchand's rivalry with Anant dates back to the 1990 Assembly polls, when he lost to Anant's elder brother, Dilip Singh.

Meanwhile, the Opposition has attacked the ruling NDA over the incident. "It's time for PM Narendra Modi to open his eyes and answer how supporters of a ruling party were moving with guns. Forget what happened 20 years back. The PM should tell who those people are who roam around during the elections with arms and ammunition? And what kind of rule is this?" asked RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav.

Mokama has a long history of clashes between the musclemen from the upper caste Bhumihar community and Yadavs. Thursday's killing was also a testimony to the never-ending battle for one-upmanship between the two.

PRASHANT KISHOR
Jan Suraaj founder

"He (Dularchand) isn't officially a member of Jan Suraaj. He was supporting Piyush Ji, the official Jan Suraaj candidate... Violence has no place in democracy. The murder of someone is the responsibility of the administration and those responsible for law and order, and it's their failure.

Security personnel keep vigil outside a hospital where the post-mortem of late Dularchand Yadav is scheduled to take place at Barh in Patna district, on Friday. PTI

Congress mocks NDA's 26-second manifesto launch

Opposition says Nitish not allowed to speak, alleges remote-control governance in Bihar

NEEDLING NDA

- Oppn claims NDA fears losing power, avoiding public scrutiny
- RJD alleges NDA copied agenda from I.N.D.I.A bloc
- Jairam Ramesh mocks Modi's 'reel generation' comment, links it to rushed launch
- Tejashwi questions NDA's job promise, calls it borrowed

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Congress on Friday claimed that NDA leaders wrapped up the release of their Bihar poll manifesto in "just 26 seconds" and did not allow Chief Minister Nitish Kumar to speak at the event.

The RJD alleged that the NDA had copied everything from the I.N.D.I.A bloc.

Congress General Secretary (Communications) Jairam Ramesh pointed out that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had, just days earlier, said that young people are making social media reels using cheap data, while listing the NDA government's achievements in Bihar.

BIHAR VOTES

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, BJP president J P Nadda and Union ministers Dharmendra Pradhan, Jitan Ram Manjhi and Chirag Paswan released the manifesto in under a minute before leaving the venue. Choudhary stayed back to take a few questions from journalists.

"Perhaps taking inspiration from the same statement, today, the NDA leaders in Bihar wrapped up the press conference in just 26 seconds. In fact, it's not really their fault either — in the last 20 years, they had nothing worthwhile to count in the name of achievements," Ramesh posted on 'X'.

He said the NDA was well aware it would not return to power, which is why discussing the manifesto and "facing the public's questions felt like a waste of time to them". He added that Nitish didn't say a word at the event and suggested that "he probably hasn't even read his own manifesto", which is why he left immediately.

RJD leader and I.N.D.I.A bloc's chief ministerial candidate Tejashwi Yadav said in Patna, "They copy everything. They say they will provide one crore jobs. They ask me where I will generate jobs from. They should first say where they plan to do it."

In Patna, Congress leader Ashok Gehlot told a press conference that CM Nitish was "not allowed" to speak and questioned whether he was "not in a position" to talk about it. He called the episode an "insult" to Bihar.

Rahul Gandhi and Tejashwi have alleged that the Nitish-led government is being run through "remote control" from Delhi, claiming the CM has lost grip over the JD(U).

Candidates don't matter, vote for Modi and Nitish: Bihar BJP ex-chief

As the Bihar Assembly election heads towards a crucial phase, BJP strategist **Sanjay Jaiswal**, four-time MP and former president of the Bihar unit, is confident of the NDA romping home and retaining power. In an interview with *DH*'s **Ashish Pandey**, Jaiswal said the NDA's victory will be 'more than expected' as it will be driven by the public's faith in the works of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and incumbent CM Nitish Kumar. Edited excerpts:

How is the election campaign going and how have things been in the region?
Champaran has been a BJP bastion for the last 30 years. Last time, we won eight out of nine seats (in West Champaran). This time, we are hoping that we will win all nine seats in this district and also all 21 (in the undivided Champaran). People are happy with the work of Narendra Modi ji and Nitish Kumar ji. The public is enthusiastic... I am sure the results will be more than what people are expecting.

Tejashwi Yadav has promised to provide one government job for every family. What is your take on this?
The Central government roughly has 30 lakh jobs across the country. The state government has another 24 lakh. Promising jobs for 2.7 crore people in Bihar simply means you are a non-serious person. Secondly, you are more interested in stopping the benefit schemes running in Bihar. Because the way you are saying everybody will get a government job, people will not be able to get 5 kg of free foodgrains they are getting at present. They will not be eligible for the Ayushman Bharat Yojana. You are saying something that is not possible and are simultaneously trying to end all these beneficial schemes...This is some kind of a joke.

Scan to watch full interview

You said it is Tejashwi's 'Pran' and not RJD 'Pran'. Isn't it another way of saying that probably all Mahagathbandhan parties are rallying behind Tejashwi?
If they had rallied behind him, they would have known what was in the manifesto. How can you say it is Tejashwi's manifesto when all allies are standing together? That means even those who are standing next to you do not believe in your election manifesto. Whenever there is an election, there is a UPA or I.N.D.I.A. manifesto or a Congress manifesto or an RJD manifesto. But for the first time, we are seeing a manifesto named after a person. So, it's only a personal warranty or unsuccessful guarantee of Tejashwi Yadav.

Why hasn't the NDA officially declared Nitish Kumar as their CM candidate?
Home Minister Amit Shah has said the CM's position is not vacant...Neither the PM's post is vacant... We are clearly saying that from 2025 to 2030, there will be a combination of Modi and Nitish Kumar in Bihar and in the country. We are pretty sure, going by the kind of response we are getting from the public. And it's very interesting that even after 20 years, there's no anti-incumbency.

What's your message to the voters?
Vote for Narendra Modi ji and Nitish Kumar. Candidates don't matter...We need MLAs from the NDA, only then we will be able to provide all the benefits, all the new industrial parks that we have planned. So, vote for the party. Party is more important than the candidate.

EARLY VOICE

A polling official casts his vote via postal ballot conducted for officials on poll duty, in Patna, on Friday. PTI

Yogi rakes up 'insult' of Rajendra Prasad by PM Nehru

SIWAN (BIHAR), PTI: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday charged Congress' Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru with having insulted Rajendra Prasad, the country's first President, by asking him not to attend the inauguration of a renovated Somnath temple.

The BJP leader made the remark while addressing a rally in Siwan district, which was the birthplace of Prasad.

"The Congress has been rejected by the people of Bihar because it has insulted stalwarts like Sardar Patel, Babasaheb Ambedkar, Rajendra Prasad and Karpoori Thakur. Even the party's own former president Sitaram Kesri, who belonged to this state, was humiliated," he alleged.

He also claimed that when "Rajendra babu decided to attend the inauguration ceremony of the Somnath temple in Gujarat, Congress' Prime Minister Nehru told him that he must not go there".

"But for Rajendra babu, it was a matter of faith, and he said he would choose to give up his post rather than not attending the function," he said.

Sengottaiyan sacked from AIADMK a day after meeting ousted leaders

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

K A Sengottaiyan, one of the senior-most leaders, having been associated with the AIADMK since its founding by M G Ramachandran in 1972, was on Friday expelled from the party, a day after he met rebel leaders T T V Dhinakaran and O Panneerselvam and called for unification of the party.

By sacking Sengottaiyan for demanding that the rebels like V K Sasikala, TTV, and OPS be taken back into AIADMK, Edappadi K Palaniswami has sent a stern message not just to the trio but also to the BJP, which has been subtly pushing for the rebels' accommodation.

The former CM believes accommodating the trio, especially Sasikala and Dhinakaran, would not just create another power centre in the party but would also be detrimental to his political future in the event of a loss in the 2026 polls.

K A Sengottaiyan

Palaniswami, who got himself elected as the general secretary in 2022 after sacking OPS and his supporters, had in September removed Sengottaiyan from all party posts after he asked the AIADMK to launch talks with the trio within 10 days.

As Sengottaiyan met Dhinakaran and OPS in Pasumpon on Thursday and reiterated his demand, Palaniswami issued a statement on Friday expelling Sengottaiyan from the party's primary membership for engaging in activities contrary to the party's principles and discipline.

"Sengottaiyan had acted in a manner detrimental to the unity, integrity, and discipline of the AIADMK and had repeatedly violated the directives of the party leadership. Despite being fully aware that party members should have no truck with those who were expelled, he engaged with such elements, tarnishing the party's reputation," he said.

Azharuddin sworn in as T'gana minister ahead of bypoll

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

Former Indian cricketer Mohammed Azharuddin was sworn in as a Cabinet minister on Friday. His induction is widely seen as a strategic political move by the ruling Congress ahead of the Jubilee Hills Assembly bypoll slated for November 11.

Governor Jishnu Dev Varma administered the oath of office in a brief ceremony attended by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and other ministers.

Azharuddin's entry comes amid objections from the BJP, which accused the government of violating the model code of conduct. He is now the only minority representative in the Revanth Reddy Cabinet.

With his inclusion, the Cabinet's strength has risen to 16, though the state's maximum permissible number is 18, including the chief minister. Revanth Reddy is expected to induct two more ministers in December as the Congress government marks two years in office.

Revanth Reddy congratulates Mohammad Azharuddin after the latter took oath as a state minister. PTI

To address discontent among senior aspirants, the chief minister also appointed P Sudharshan Reddy and K Prem Sagar Rao as chairmen of state-run corporations with Cabinet rank.

Speaking to reporters after taking the oath, Azharuddin dismissed claims linking his elevation to the upcoming bypoll. "I thank my party's high command, the public, and my supporters. This has nothing to do with the Jubilee Hills by-election. These are separate matters. I will work sincerely for the upliftment of the underprivileged. G Kishan Reddy can say anything. I don't need anyone's certificate of patriotism," he said.

Opposition BRS has repeatedly accused the Congress of neglecting Muslim representation, noting the absence of any Muslim minister for the past 22 months.

Azharuddin had contested from Jubilee Hills in the 2023 Assembly elections but lost to BRS's Maganti Gopinath, securing 35.03% of the votes.

To facilitate his induction, the state government has proposed nominating him to the Legislative Council under the Governor's quota, along with Prof Kodandaram. He must become an MLC within six months to retain his ministerial berth.

Following Gopinath's recent death, there was speculation that Azharuddin might be fielded again in the bypoll. However, with his Council nomination confirmed, the Congress has instead chosen Naveen Yadav as its candidate. The formal file for Azharuddin's nomination is pending with Governor Jishnu Dev Varma.

Kharge to hit Bihar campaign trail on Nov 3

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge will hit the Bihar campaign trail on November 3 by addressing an election rally in the reserved seat of Raja Pakar.

He will hold three public meetings, three press conferences as well as a visit to the Maha Bodhi Temple and Vishnupad Temple in Bodh Gaya. On November 3, he will address a presser in Raja Pakar besides holding a campaign rally. In the evening, he will hold a review meeting of the party's preparedness ahead of the first phase of elections on November 6. The next day he will hold a press conference in the party headquarters in Patna.

DECCAN HERALD
ESTABLISHED 1948

HC relocation can restore Cubbon Park

The Karnataka government's move to relocate the High Court from its current home in Cubbon Park to a new campus serves the dual purpose of catering to the judiciary's needs and preserving the city's ecological interests. For decades, Cubbon Park – one of Bengaluru's few remaining green lung spaces – has been suffocated by the ever-expanding demands of the justice system operating within its bounds. Established in 1870 by the Acting Commissioner of Mysore, Sir John Meade, and landscaped by Major General Richard Sankey, then Chief Engineer of Mysore State, the park was named in honour of Sir Mark Cubbon, the longest-serving British Commissioner of the state. Now renamed Sri Chamarajendra Park, it has shrunk from the original 300 acres to less than 200 acres, with several public buildings and clubs eating into the area, eroding the ecological balance it was meant to preserve.

The present High Court building, completed in 1868, was called Attara Kacheri, as it housed 18 government departments. In 1956, the administrative offices moved to the newly constructed Vidhana Soudha, and Attara Kacheri became the seat of the Mysore High Court, later renamed the Karnataka High Court. The iconic red structure remains a landmark of colonial-era architecture, but was not designed to handle the thousands of advocates, litigants, and vehicles that now descend on it daily. The court's growing footprint, including the 2011 allocation of 4.4 acres of Cubbon Park for parking, has drawn criticism. A proposal to construct a court annexe within the park after demolishing another heritage structure was dropped after widespread opposition from citizens and environmentalists. The current urgency for a modern judicial complex, voiced by the Bengaluru Advocates' Association, is thus well-founded. Space constraints, inadequate facilities, and the heritage building's structural limitations make relocation inevitable.

The shift will help address space constraints of the present building and preserve a crucial green space

The search for a site within the Central Business District is a welcome step. Equally important is what happens after the shift. The building must be conserved as a protected heritage monument, and the parking area restored to the Horticulture Department. The complex could be repurposed as a museum, integrated with the popular Cubbon Park heritage walks, a fitting tribute to its historical significance. Bengaluru cannot afford to lose another inch of its green cover. Cubbon Park must remain a haven for flora, fauna, and citizens, not an administrative enclave of concrete and congestion. Shifting the High Court is not merely a logistical move; it is necessary for the preservation of Bengaluru's green spaces and the smooth dispensation of justice.

Real pollution, artificial solutions

The Delhi government's experiment with artificial rain has failed, with two attempts at cloud seeding producing no rain on Tuesday. Another attempt, planned for Wednesday, was shelved. Executed with technical assistance from IIT Kanpur in the wake of the elevated post-Diwali air pollution levels in the National Capital Region (NCR), the Rs-3.20 crore drive was expected to wash away the toxic smog but did not produce even a drizzle in the target areas. There was political squabbling over the matter between the ruling BJP and the Opposition parties, mainly the AAP. This is a familiar blame game over pollution, which peaks during the winter due to multiple reasons: weather, rubble-burning in Punjab and Haryana, and the fireworks during Diwali.

The decision to allow the use of green crackers this year during Diwali was misguided. Pollution levels shot up and have stayed high ever since. Even as the administration claimed the levels had come down, the Opposition said it was because tankers sprayed water around the sensors at the air quality monitoring stations. Artificial rain is created by seeding clouds with chemicals. It works only under certain conditions, such as heavy cloud cover, adequate moisture and humidity, and favourable wind patterns. It has been tried within the country and outside, but the results have not been promising. China, Thailand, and the UAE have reported some success, but only when the timing and the conditions were right. Delhi's dry atmosphere and low humidity are not considered suitable for this experiment. States such as Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have also tried cloud seeding to create rain in drought-affected areas, but the attempts have not always been successful. There has always been a debate around the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of the exercise. Its long-term effects are also not known; some scientists have expressed concerns over the attempts to influence natural processes.

Cloud seeding has failed to clear the air. No innovation can substitute the common sense to not pollute

Creation of artificial rain is an attempt to reduce pollution after polluting the air. The best way to fight pollution is not to pollute at all, as revealed in the experience of cities that have reduced pollution, such as Beijing. Reducing vehicular and industrial emissions, ensuring clean construction activity, and quick and efficient disposal and management of waste are the best means to curb pollution. Some cities will have to deal with factors that are local and specific to their conditions. The Delhi administration has claimed that the presence of particulate matter has come down, but that has also been contested.

A VISION FOR WARFARE

Military theatre-isation misses the why question

The idea is hindered by the absence of a joint doctrine that aligns threats, capabilities, and technology

LT GEN HARINDER SINGH (RETD)

India's quest for military theatre-isation looks elusive. Each time we seem close, some old and new arguments tend to stymie this exercise. While the land and sea forces have reconciled to theatre-ise, the Air Force continues to reassert its stance. In a recent dialogue at the Army War College in Mhow, the Air Chief plainly argued about the ubiquitous nature of its own force, and the lack of a strong rationale to theatre-ise India's armed forces.

The Air Force is both right and wrong. Right in as far as India's military leaders are unable to offer an inspiring rationale to theatre-ise in concert with the Army and Navy. And wrong, because in the absence of a strong rationale, the Air Force cannot drag itself, particularly in the context of our northern borders. Clearly, the issue seems more doctrinal than structural. In the absence of a persuasive military doctrine, the argument is not gathering the right momentum.

If India's military theatre-isation project is more doctrinal than structural, then why is its military shying away from addressing the issue? The answer is simple. Structural ideas are easy to conceive, visualise and propagate, but difficult to operationalise. Any form of theatre-isation – bi-service or tri-service – along India's extended land borders, or the peninsular region, requires a doctrinal basis for it to be accepted and flourish. If that logic is missing or reduced to equitable distribution of turf, the experiment is unlikely to be durable enough to endure the high pace of future combat.

Theatre-ise for what? – is precisely the question that the Air Chief seems to be hinting at asking. As a case in point, PLA's expansive reforms that commenced in 2017 were predicated on two years of intense doctrinal reformation, now referred to as the Integrated Joint Operations (IJO) concept. The PLA's structural reforms to reorganise and re-theatre its forces – referred to as 'above' and 'below' the neck reforms – then followed. By firmly aligning its leadership on the IJO concept, it was made possible to quickly theatre-ise its joint forces. Similar contexts can be found in other militaries across the world.

At another level, when technology is evolving at a breakneck pace, the technological context becomes ever more important, if not any less, than the doctrinal or structural contexts. Globally, modern militaries are struggling to contextualise this relationship between technology, doctrine, and structures. And how they are prioritised within the strategic-planning framework, i.e., what comes first – technology, doctrines, or structures – and how to make the right military choices.

The Chinese case is, again, instructive. Having first put in place a vibrant civil-military industrial complex, the PLA's doctrinal imperatives clearly converge with its evolving technological

might, which provides the impetus for its military transformation. On the contrary, India, in the absence of a strong defence-techno base, is caught chasing a bouquet of technologies partner-countries have to offer, apart from its recent efforts to ramp up its defence needs indigenously. This leaves India's structural realignment in a bit of jeopardy.

Several decades of collegiate planning between the three Services have led to rigid mindsets, which tend to reflexively seek low-ball consensus and limit mutual accommodation of views. The Air Force's apprehensions seem to be a direct fallout of Operation Sindoor, but the next conflict could be profoundly different. India's policymakers need to ask the right questions before they choose to undertake serious and lasting theatre-isation in the armed forces.

Rethinking readiness

Three aspects are pertinent. First, the political leadership needs to spell out what its military has to be ready for on a decadal basis (ready for what threats?). Our threats, which seem more territorial or littoral as of now, might soon mutate into complex multi-domain threats. Newer technologies can create pacing threats, which are difficult to predict. Early breakthroughs in quantum computing, robotics, and hypersonics point in this direction. We have to invest deeply into visualising these new-age threats, which seemingly lie beyond the realm of our service-oriented thinking.

Second, the Indian military has to be sure of what it needs to fight on a decadal basis (ready for what capabilities?). Today, capability development is much more than simple budgetary allocations, as there is enough evidence to prove that more money does not buy you more firepower. Often monetary allocations tend to heighten our confidence superficially – platforms that are essential today might not be as useful tomorrow. What is important is to understand which capabilities are ageing or providing diminishing returns, and which ones are more revolutionary than others, to tilt the balance on the battlefield.

Therefore, investing in expensive, large-signature and long shelf-life items such as tanks, fighter aircraft, and warships has to be weighed out against more precise, lethal, and agile technologies of the future. In Ukraine, the use of these platforms has considerably reduced and is restricted. It increasingly puts into doubt the relevance of platforms which were traditionally the sword-arm.

And third, policymakers have to appreciate the importance of acquisition timelines (ready by when?). Acquisition plans with delivery timelines lying in another technological era could make projected acquisitions look irrelevant or less useful. This is a serious challenge. India's defence ministry recently promulgated its technology roadmap. Largely focused on identifying the type of platforms and other technical parameters, the document does not address this timeline and resourcing issue. This might need a reassessment to ascertain what is relevant and what is not against the global technology curve, and its military utility.

Building coherence across the war-fighting spectrum – from concepts to technologies – and India's military theatre-isation is the key. This necessitates a joint doctrine, where threats, capabilities, and timelines are tightly coupled towards the development of a joint force. Perhaps a National Security Strategy (NSS) with strong strategic guidance to the three Services could help solve this impasse.

(The writer commanded the Leh Corps during the Eastern Ladakh crisis in 2020)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

Hand of Murphy

Trust me to test British punctuality — and win

PRASANNA S HARIHAR

Our defining moments often arrive when our best-laid plans are scuttled, and unseen hands seem to rule the roost. A famous footballer coined the phrase "Hand of God" after scoring a goal with a hand-punched ball.

Be it the grocery store checkout line or the vehicle toll booth, I have one dubious distinction of always finding myself in the slowest queue. You get the drift—the moment I switch to a seemingly faster line, it grinds to a halt, and then I am in the snail-pace lane. My daughters have witnessed and suffered this far too often and have christened me with the middle name Murphy.

I had to live up to that moniker, and of course, it happened in the most unexpected place – London. On a business trip in 2012, I was travelling by train from London Euston station to Macclesfield, via Manchester, for a client meeting. Trains in Western countries, especially in the UK, are known for their cleanliness and punctuality. Naturally, they chose me to prove them wrong!

It was a cold but sunny morning. The train was spotless, the passengers neatly dressed – many in suits and hats, some biting into sandwiches, others sipping coffee, browsing newspapers, or lost in books. I sat by the window, across from an elderly woman who fit that quintessential picture.

About 15-20 minutes into the journey, as the view turned greener and the concrete of the city faded, chaos suddenly erupted. It sounded like stones pelting the train—frankly, like raining stones, a barrage of loud cracks and thuds. The train screeched to a halt. No one was allowed to alight, and the ticket collector came around, asking us to remain calm.

These trains run on overhead electric cables that had suddenly snapped for reasons unknown. It had never happened before -- but then again, Murphy was onboard. The snapping wires had created the racket that sounded like flying stones. Fortunately, a major accident was averted.

As the clock ticked and minutes stretched into hours, people needed to answer nature's call – both to empty and refill. The toilets soon overflowed and ran out of paper. Food packets were distributed, and before long, the bins overflowed with leftovers and boxes. This elderly lady across from me began to cry aloud. The air-conditioning shut down, leaving us all hot and irritable -- and some delirious. The scene could have been straight out of a disaster movie.

We were stranded for a long time before authorities announced another engine was being sent to tow us to the next station. Passengers were promised full refunds, and onwards journeys were rebooked at no extra cost—in exchange for the details we provided.

Eventually, I took a train back to London Euston and then took the Underground to my hotel. The 'Murphy' in me had been fully activated that day—and I lived up, once again, to my daughters' expectations.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Treat air pollution as a critical public health emergency

Apropos 'Toxic air killed 17L Indians in 2022: Lancet report' (Oct 31), the findings in the latest Lancet Countdown — an authoritative, transparent, and peer-reviewed series on global health — confirm that air pollution is the leading non-natural cause of mortality in India. The country continues to rank among the most polluted in the world, according to IQAir. During winters, especially after Deepavali, PM2.5 levels in many regions are several times higher than the WHO's recommended safe limit. One pulmonologist even compared breathing this toxic air to smoking a pack of cigarettes a day. Deaths from Covid-19 pale in comparison to the annual toll from polluted air. It is high time the government treated air pollution as a critical public health emergency. It must hasten the transition from fossil fuels to renewables, strictly enforce emission regulations across sectors, and undertake afforestation on a war footing.
Kamal Laddha, Bengaluru

Will to win

The 13th ICC Women's Cricket World Cup has truly embodied the spirit of the will to win. India's magnificent chase against defending champions Australia showcased not just skill but remarkable resilience. Jemimah Rodrigues' unbeaten 127 was an innings of rare class, placing her among the finest in ODI history. Ably supported by captain Harmanpreet Kaur and Richa Ghosh's finishing brilliance, India turned a daunting 338-run target into a record-breaking triumph. Their teamwork, composure, and unyielding belief transformed the DY Patil Stadium into a theatre of dreams. This victory is not merely a statistic — it is an inspiring statement of India's growing stature in women's cricket.
K Chidanand Kumar, Bengaluru

Wake-up call

Apropos 'States cannot be casual with critical care' (Oct 30), the Supreme Court has rightly pulled up state governments for their lackadaisical approach to public health, particularly their failure to frame uniform guidelines for patient management in Intensive Care Units (ICUs) and Critical Care Units (CCUs). Despite repeated reminders, many states have shown alarming indifference to this vital issue, which directly concerns patients' lives. The absence of standardised protocols results in inconsistent care, negligence, and preventable fatalities. Health, being a state subject, demands both responsibility and urgency — not bureaucratic complacency. The Court's reprimand serves as a wake-up call to all states.
N Sadhasiva Reddy, Bengaluru

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

Who told you? Did (Deputy CM D K) Shivakumar tell you this?
Siddaramaiah, Karnataka CM
(on whether Karnataka will see a change of guard in November)

Behind anger there always lies fear.
Eckhart Tolle

TO BE PRECISE

IN PERSPECTIVE

Mobility in Bengaluru: A people-first fix

Planning for the city needs to be rooted in scientific principles, actionable data, and greater public discourse

SRINIVAS ALAVILLI

Signalling a shift from closed-door planning to open civic dialogue, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar recently met with Member of Parliament Tejasvi Surya to discuss urban mobility in the city. At the heart of this discussion was the Rs-24,000 crore Tunnel Road project, a proposal that has reignited a debate on congestion, public transport, and the kind of city Bengaluru wants to become.

MP Tejasvi Surya has been vocal on the need for orienting mobility projects towards moving people and not just vehicles. He calls for strengthening the metro and public transport network and feels public transport usage on the Outer Ring Road (ORR) can be encouraged by deploying loop bus services between metro stations. DCM and Bengaluru Development Minister D K Shivakumar supports metro expansion and public transport, but also sees double-decker metro lines, tunnels, and flyovers as critical infrastructure for a city short on space and with more than 1.2 crore vehicles.

Mobility science consistently advocates for increasing the modal share of public transport, walking, and cycling to improve urban quality of life. However, decision-makers view congestion as the core issue rather than treating it as symptomatic of a deeper problem. This infrastructure-centric view is not unique to Bengaluru – cities such as Bhopal and Indore have demolished their bus rapid transit (BRTS) systems, and across India, flyovers remain the go-to solution.

The mainstream narrative prioritises cars, roads, and flyovers even though decades of urban experience indicate expanding bus networks, metro systems, cycling lanes, and pedestrian infrastructure leads to more equitable and sustainable cities. Such investments benefit all citizens, and not merely those who can afford private vehicles.

Public transport systems such as BMTC and Namma Metro are serving more people than ever, yet the time taken to commute continues to rise due to a rapid increase in the number of private vehicles, coupled with companies curtailing working from home (WFH) provisions for employees and poor road conditions.

The vehicle/capacity (V/C) ratio in the ORR corridor is three times what it is expected to be, as per a recent study by the Bengaluru Traffic Police. The BTP also reported a massive 37% drop in vehicular traffic on sections where the new Yellow Line Metro line began operations.

Many citizens and experts in the city are actively advocating for quality public transport, walking, and cycling infrastructure to reduce congestion and improve access for all. Research shows that large-scale infrastructure projects, such as flyovers, do not relieve traffic congestion. Instead, they tend to induce demand, encouraging greater private vehicle ownership and increasing traffic over time.

A shift in discourse

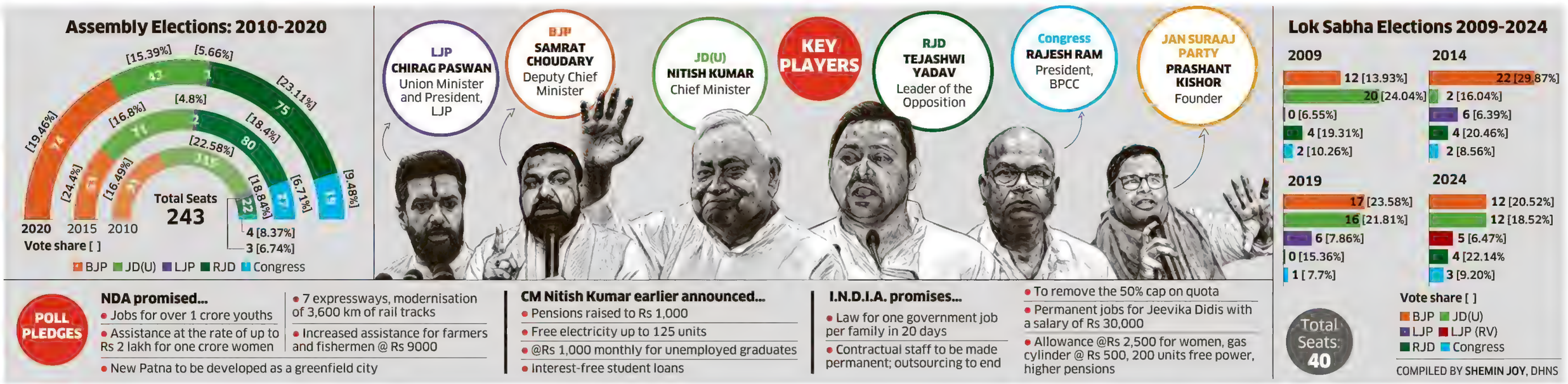
What we urgently need in our cities is more public discourse on issues that impact citizens directly. But this discourse must be based on scientific principles and systematic and periodic data collection, for it to have an impact. For example, looking closely at data that identifies travel demand and analysis can determine mobility solutions that are best suited for a particular city, area, or scenario.

We need resilient road networks, with secondary and tertiary roads, especially in the outer areas, as these regions become part of our growing cities. We may need tunnels and flyovers in strategic locations, but this need must be carefully analysed with due diligence on the environmental impact they leave over a period of time. What is needed is investment in integrated public transport systems that include trains, metro, and buses, as well as intermediate transport systems such as autos and cycling infrastructure. Continuous quality footpaths are a critical, yet often overlooked mode of mobility, and key to orienting our cities towards greater public transport uptake. The basis for making all of these decisions should be driven by quality granular data.

Karnataka has a long-standing tradition of civil discourse and consensus-building with citizens actively engaging and raising concerns about projects that may not align with long-term sustainability goals or that are not backed by relevant research. Bengaluru has witnessed several instances of citizens coming together to seek sustainable mobility solutions and the governments have even changed their course of action in certain instances.

That urban mobility is now being discussed openly, by several elected leaders, with facts and figures presented and contested, highlights the importance of constructive dialogue on issues that affect daily life in the city. This is a significant win for the citizens and sets a precedent for encouraging more such healthy debates in the public domain.

(The writer is a Fellow at WRI India)



Politics of Promise: Bihar's quest for jobs and justice

BIHAR
Assembly Elections 2025

No of Seats: 243

Reserved for SCs: **38**

Reserved for STs: **02**

Total No of Voters: 7,43,55,976

Polling stations 90,712

Date of Polling:

1st phase: Nov 6, 2025 **(121 ACs)**

2nd phase: Nov 11, 2025 **(122 ACs)**

Date of Counting:

Nov 14, 2025

Unemployment, debt eclipse caste narrative

SHEMIN JOY
DH NEWS SERVICE

The campaign rhetoric during elections in Bihar is dominated by 'Sushashan' (good governance) and 'jungle raj' and spiced up by the chatter of 'samajik nyay' (social justice) and 'aarthik vikas' (economic development)' as the state continues to fare low on socio-economic indicators.

Both the ruling NDA and the opposition I.N.D.I.A bloc or the 'Mahagathbandhan' promise to perform better than their rival in taking Bihar to a destination that has remained distant for it so far, with a slew of measures that they believe will transform the state.

It is a state that churns out bureaucrats and politicians but still lacks in job opportunities and industrial development, prompting the young and the old to migrate out looking for livelihood. Rich and poor alike also leave the state for education and even to get medical care.

While Biharis could boast of politically empowering several sections of society by giving representation in governance, one of the major impediments before them is economic empowerment. Infrastructure development is still restricted to the urban centres, while high-end educational and health facilities are available for a few.

It is not that Bihar saw no progress in the past decades. Political commentator Amitabh Tiwari acknowledges this but says that when one compares it with what other states have achieved during this period, it is clear that there is a lot that needs to be done in Bihar.

In an age of intense scrutiny, parties that rule the state and aspire to govern know this and commit to a new set of promises every five years. The youth are worried about their prospects, while an aspiring class is impatiently waiting for upward mobility.

Apart from caste and community-specific targeting, parties also cater to the wishes of youth and women, who form a substantial chunk of voters.

People below 40 years account for 3.93 crore or nearly 53% of the 7.45 crore electorate, while women account for 3.5 crore or 47%. Though there are only 891 (phase 1) and 894 (phase 2) female voters for every 1,000 male voters, more women than men exercise their franchise.

Keeping this in mind, parties and coalitions have made several promises – from increasing social security pensions to jobs to women-centric allowances. If the I.N.D.I.A bloc has promised a monthly allowance at the rate of Rs 2,500 for women, besides providing the 'Jeevika Didis' permanent jobs, the NDA has promised a one-time deposit of Rs 10,000, a seed money for starting a business.

"The promises of increasing pension or monthly allowances for women are nothing new. Only the amounts are tinkered. Nitish Kumar has not fallen into the trap of monthly allowances because he realises that when states like Maharashtra and Karnataka, which are well off, are struggling to pay these allowances, a state like Bihar would struggle further," Tiwari told *DH*.

Not to say that themes like 'infiltrators', dynasty, 'vote chori', and caste have exited the campaign lexicon, but one of the major talking points this time is jobs.

In 2020, RJD's Tejashwi Yadav made it a talking point, and he is trying to do it this time too. Tejashwi accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of taking "factories to Gujarat" and seeking "victory in Bihar". The RJD chief promised government jobs for one in every family in the state. Home Minister Amit Shah lamented that there was not enough land available for industrial development. But Congress leader Rahul Gandhi countered it, questioning the NDA government's decision to give land to the Adani Group at Rs 1 per acre.

"All are talking about tackling unemployment, but I am not seeing how they are going to do it. Neither the NDA nor the Mahagathbandhan has a clear road map for that. The question is how all these will be funded. Nobody has a tangible solution to tackle unemployment," Tiwari added.

The question now is whether all promises will remain just poll-time rhetoric or whether there will be a real change.

Unemployment, debt eclipse caste narrative

ASHISH RANJAN

Bihar's electoral landscape has long been characterised by identity-based mobilisation, with caste and religion serving as primary axes of political competition. While identity politics broadly pervades electoral politics across the country, Bihar warrants particular attention for two reasons. First, alongside West Bengal and Tamil Nadu, Bihar represents an exception to the post-Mandal dominance of the two national parties – BJP and Congress – in major state politics. Second, persistent economic underdevelopment has transformed caste-based representation from merely a political strategy into a mechanism of collective empowerment.

The 2025 Assembly election, however, signals a significant evolution in Bihar's electoral discourse. Identity-based appeals have been supplemented, even if not superseded, by an employment-centric narrative, cutting across political formations. This discursive shift correlates closely with the state's demographic composition: Election Commission data indicates that 46% of Bihar's 7.41 crore registered voters are aged 18-39, with 22% falling in the 18-29 age bracket, rendering employment the pivotal electoral issue.

Migration and Women's Vote

Bihar faces another critical economic challenge: large-scale out-migration. According to the 2011 Census, approximately 75 lakh people from Bihar have migrated to other states for employment, representing roughly 10% of the state's total electorate. This exodus created a turnout imbalance, elevating women voters into a decisive constituency in recent elections.

Women constitute 48% of Bihar's electorate. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has systematically cultivated this constituency through targeted initiatives: bicycles for schoolgirls, scholarships for girls completing 10th, 12th standards and graduation, reservations in panchayat and municipal elections, and subsequently 35% reservation in government jobs. This strategic cultivation bore fruit in the 2020 Assembly elections, where women voters proved crucial to the NDA's survival.

The 2020 election patterns are instructive: In Phase 1, women's turnout lagged men's by 2% and the Mahagathbandhan (MGB) swept that phase. In Phase 2, women's turnout surpassed men's, giving the NDA an edge. In Phase 3, women's turnout exceeded men's by over 10%, and the NDA dominated. Of JD(U)'s 43 seats, 37 were won in constituencies where women's turnout exceeded men's.

While women remain the backbone of NDA's support base, Tejaswi Yadav's promise of a Rs 2,500 monthly payment for every woman has generated significant buzz. Evidence from other state elections suggests women voters respond strongly to economic incentives beyond identity or ideological frameworks. In response, the Nitish Kumar government disbursed a one-time payment of Rs 10,000 under the Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana to 1.21 crore women, a clear acknowledgement of anti-incumbency fears.

Unemployment, debt trap

Two constituencies drive this anti-incumbency: unemployed youth and financially distressed women. The latter group has become increasingly vulnerable to predatory non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) offering high-interest loans with aggressive recovery practices. The NBFC disbursements in Bihar reached Rs 49,500 crores by 2023, an 82-fold increase from just Rs 600 crores in 2020. This explosive growth has trapped thousands of families in debt cycles, adding economic anxiety to the electoral equation.

Whether unemployment and the debt crisis will translate into a decisive anti-incumbency wave against the Nitish Kumar-led NDA and whether Tejashwi Yadav can ride on it as effectively as he did in 2020 remain to be seen. However, the economic distress among Biharis is undeniable.

(The writer is an election researcher and a co-founder of Data Action Lab for Emerging Societies)

SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT

Tracking the invisible invasive

India is using eDNA in the fight against invasive alien fish such as Gambusia and guppies, writes Nobinraja M

In the early 20th century, India was in the middle of a deadly malaria crisis. By the time the country gained independence, 75 million people were infected, and nearly 800,000 died each year due to this mosquito-borne disease. The scale of the problem was staggering.

The crisis prompted the Indian government to launch the National Malaria Control Programme in 1953, which eventually evolved into the National Malaria Eradication Programme (NEMP). The big weapon against malaria at the time? Spraying dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane (DDT) - a non-biodegradable pesticide used globally at that time for mosquito control.

But by the mid-1980s, a new idea began to spread. Instead of resorting to chemicals, why not use fish that naturally eat mosquito larvae?

The chosen species was Gambusia, a small North American fish known for being tough, fast-breeding, and voracious for mosquito larvae.

In 1985, India officially added larvivorous fishes to its anti-malaria toolkit, but the first introduction of Gambusia in India dates back to the 1920s. Government health departments stocked Gambusia in village ponds, wells, tanks, and canals. Fisheries hatcheries bred them in bulk. All over India, these little fish were deployed as biological soldiers in the war against malaria.

But there was a catch.

Gambusia spread fast. Aggressive and competitive, it outcompeted native fish, amphibians, and aquatic insects, moving far beyond malaria-control sites through connected waterways and during floods.

Ironically, later studies showed that mosquito larvae weren't even their primary food source. Soon, guppies, colourful aquarium favourites, were added to the programme too. Unfortunately, guppies also exhibited a similar negative impact on the ecosystem.

Today, Gambusia and guppies are found across almost every state in India. Gambusia eat native fish eggs, tadpoles, and insects, breed rapidly, and bully other species. Both fish are tiny, bony, often thrive in dirty water and do not taste good.

We know Gambusia can cause ecological harm from studies elsewhere and a few from India. A few studies show the extent and possible spread of their distribution, but we don't know the scale of the invasion or its impact. Guppies are milder but can still be a threat.

A researcher collects eDNA from a waterbody.

Detecting and monitoring invasives

India's freshwater systems are massive and complex. They host thousands of fish species, many of which are found nowhere else on Earth. But this richness makes it incredibly difficult to find invaders.

Traditional methods—netting, electrofishing, market surveys, and fisher interviews—are labour-intensive, expensive, and often miss rare, hidden, or hard-to-reach species. Most invasives are only noticed after they've exploded in numbers and started damaging fisheries or biodiversity. By then, control is nearly impossible.

And remember, India has millions of ponds, tens of thousands of reservoirs, and over 400 rivers. Covering them all with conventional surveys is unrealistic. Huge blind spots remain, and that's precisely where invasions thrive.

Here's where science takes a fascinating turn.

Back in the 1980s, researchers were experimenting with extracting DNA from old museum specimens, laying the groundwork for ancient DNA research.

Every organism sheds DNA from skin cells, mucus, waste, or decay. These microscopic fragments float around in the environment. This is environmental DNA, or eDNA.

Over time, scientists discovered they could recover genetic traces not just from bones, but from soil, sediments, and even water. By the 2000s, they could detect species simply by collecting and analysing a few litres of water and analysing the DNA it contains.

With this, scientists can figure out which species are present without ever catching them. One eDNA survey can give a snapshot of an entire waterbody's biodiversity: common species, rare ones, hidden ones, or even early-stage invasions.

Countries like Australia, Japan, and the United States already use eDNA as a key part of their invasive alien species surveillance, detecting threats early and enabling rapid response.

Gambusia is still being released into waterbodies in India. In a recent hearing, the National Green Tribunal ruled against the introduction of Gambusia and guppies into waterbodies to safeguard the country. But due to a lack of awareness and outdated scientific understanding within reputed government bodies, the tradition continues.

Pioneering eDNA efforts in India

In India, eDNA is still new, but pioneering work has been ongoing in the last couple of years. One such new initiative is the eDNA-based invasive alien fish mapping project being done by Bengaluru-based ATREE, funded by the Department of Biotechnology, which is piloting large-scale monitoring of invasive alien fishes in selected Ramsar wetlands. This project will also focus on guppies and other invasive fish.

The researchers' team is also working to build a make-in-India, low-cost eDNA collection system that can revolutionise eDNA research in India. It can be carried to the field by anyone and is easy to use in citizen science applications.

EDNA tests have already detected species that have never been caught in nets or reported by fishers. Using eDNA to detect invasive alien fish shows that if tools like eDNA had existed and been used decades ago, we might have caught their escape early, before they spread across the country.

Now, India has a chance to get ahead of invasions rather than react too late. By embedding eDNA into routine surveys, strengthening DNA libraries, and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, India can build an early-warning system for aquatic invaders.

(The author is a researcher focusing on the ecology and management of invasive alien fishes in India)

DID YOU KNOW?

Can we stop Antarctic ice shelves from collapsing?

Up to 59% of Antarctic ice shelves may be at risk of disappearing under high-emission scenarios by 2300, according to a comprehensive analysis of the effect of ocean warming published in Nature. This could result in up to 10 m of global sea-level rise. The modelling suggests that ice sheet losses would be much lower under a scenario in which warming remains below 2°C, which underscores the urgency of pursuing low emissions to safeguard Antarctic ice shelves and coastal regions.

Under warming conditions, Antarctic ice sheets are melting at an accelerated rate, and becoming a major contributor to global sea-level rise. Ice shelves surrounding the sheets act as protective barriers by restraining ice flow into the ocean, but as emissions rise, they thin and collapse. Previous studies have assessed future ice shelf stabilit,y but often overlook ocean warming as a key driver of decline.

To better understand when and under what conditions ice shelves may lose structural integrity, Clara Burgard and colleagues conducted simulations that accounted for both ocean and atmospheric warming. The authors found that the point at which ice shelves become non-viable depends on the emissions scenario.

Under low emissions, with warming kept below 2°C by 2300, only 1 of the 64 shelves studied becomes non-viable, with risk increasing after 2250. By contrast, under a high-emission scenario with warming reaching nearly 12°C by 2300, 38 (59%) Antarctic ice shelves become non-viable, potentially contributing to 10 m of sea-level rise. Most shelf decline would accelerate from 2085, peaking around 2170, with ocean warming identified as the primary driver.

The authors suggest that their estimate for ice shelf disappearance under the high-emission scenario is conservative, as collapse could also be triggered by damage, rifting, fracturing and calving. To mitigate future sea-level rise and preserve the structural integrity of Antarctic ice shelves and ice sheets, low-emission pathways must be prioritised. Improved data on ocean–ice interactions are also needed to enhance future modelling of Antarctic shelf stability.

- Phys.org

India, US sign 10-year defence framework pact to deepen cooperation

Deal to boost trade, expand presence of American majors in Indian market

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth in Kuala Lumpur. PTI

TARIFFS TO TIES

- Deal inked in Kuala Lumpur during ADMM-Plus
- Agreement renews 2015 deal; builds on 'Major Defence Partner' status
- Both sides reaffirm commitment to a 'free and open Indo-Pacific'

Amid ongoing tariff troubles, India and the United States on Friday signed a 10-year framework agreement on defence cooperation, expected to augment closeness between the two militaries and expand the presence of American defence majors in the lucrative Indian market.

Signing the document in Kuala Lumpur on the sidelines of the 12th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus), Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the agreement would herald a new decade of partnership between the two nations. The two sides also held delegation-level and one-on-one talks.

"Defence will remain a major pillar of our bilateral relations. Our partnership is critical to ensuring a free, open and rules-bound Indo-Pacific region," Rajnath said.

His counterpart and US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth said India is a priority partner for the US in defence cooperation, and they were committed to working closely with New Delhi to ensure a "free and open Indo-Pacific"—an oblique reference to China's muscle flexing.

"This advances our defence partnership, a cornerstone for regional stability and deterrence. We're enhancing our coordination, information sharing and technology cooperation. Our defence ties have never been stronger," Hegseth said in a social media post.

The agreement renews a previous pact signed in 2015. Similar accords were signed in earlier decades as well, but about 10 years ago, the US designated India a 'Major Defence Partner', paving the way for sharing critical military equipment and technology.

In July, when External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met Hegseth in Washington, the renewal of the 10-year framework agreement was among the issues discussed.

"We can complete several pending US defence sales to India, expand our shared defence industrial cooperation and co-production efforts, strengthen interoperability between our forces, and then formally sign a new 10-year framework," Hegseth had stated.

During a meeting in February between President Donald Trump and PM Narendra Modi, the two leaders announced plans to pursue new procurement and co-production arrangements for Javelin anti-tank guided missiles and Stryker armoured vehicles.

Indian Navy to add 47 ships in 3 years

EYE ON OCEAN

- 10 ships and a submarine have already been inducted so far
- 4 more are expected to be inducted before December 31
- Another 19 vessels are expected next year, and 13 more ships in 2027

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Indian Navy is adding nearly 50 ships and submarines in three years, a top official said here on Friday, emphasising that the force keeps a close eye on "40-50 ships" that operate in the Indian Ocean region at any point in time.

"We have inducted 10 ships and a submarine so far, and four more are expected before December 31. Next year, we will have 19 vessels, and in 2027, we are scheduled to have 13 more ships," said Navy vice-chief Vice-Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan here.

The acquisitions are in line with the Navy's plan to become a major blue-water force with 175 ships and submarines by 2035. However, China's People's Liberation Army Navy is a bigger force, with over 300 surface combatants, submarines, and an expanding footprint in the Indian Ocean, through which nearly half of the global trade and energy passes.

Vice-Admiral Vatsayan flagged the continuous presence of "extra-regional powers" and 40-50 foreign ships in the Indian Ocean at any given time as major challenges, but asserted that the Navy monitors these vessels all the time.

On a Chinese research vessel's presence in recent months to watch Indian missile tests, he said, "Maritime domain awareness is to have information about how many ships are in our area of interest. This includes merchant vessels, fishing, coast guard, and naval vessels, and is not limited to China or any specific country... Yes, the Chinese ship that came was a monitoring ship. But we knew when it entered and where it was."

Asked about a US ship in Sri Lankan waters, he said it was not much of a concern to India as it was not a monitoring ship.

Vice Admiral Vatsayan said, keeping with the navy's growing aspirations, India will host three major international events at Visakhapatnam in February 2026, including India's third International Fleet Review, for which more than 50 countries have already confirmed participation.

Both Russia and the USA would participate with ships and aircraft. Quad partners Japan and Australia, too, would be present along with ASEAN members and India's neighbours. A final count on the country participation would come closer to the event.

Mumbai hostage crisis row set to reach HC

MUMBAI, DHNS: The Powai hostage crisis and encounter have escalated into a major political issue in Maharashtra, with the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) accusing the BJP-led Maha Yuti government of harassing contractors and delaying payments. The episode is now set to reach the Bombay High Court.

The suspect, Rohit Arya, was reportedly agitated because the government did not sanction around Rs 2 crore for his project. Questions were also raised about why then-school education minister Deepak Kesarkar, from the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena, paid him from his personal account.

In October 2022, Kesarkar inaugurated Project Let's Change-PLA Swachhata Monitor under the "Majhi Shala, Sundar Shala" initiative. It aimed to make school students cleanliness monitors to discourage spitting and littering in public places. Arya was appointed the project director from July 20 to October 2, 2023.

"I did not withhold any payment. I helped him with a cheque out of courtesy. The department believed he collected money directly from students, and sought an explanation," said Kesarkar.

DGCA defends duty-hour extension for Air India 787 pilots

NEW DELHI, PTI: Air India has been provided the temporary flight duty time extension for two-pilot Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft operations based on specific operational reasons for European flights impacted by longer routing due to the Pakistan airspace closure, according to aviation regulator DGCA.

The watchdog has provided the clarification to ALPA India after the pilots' body had called for the withdrawal of the relaxation. An office bearer of ALPA India said it is reviewing the DGCA response.

For the Boeing 787 two-man flight crew operations, the Flight Duty Time Limitation (FDTL) has been increased to 10.30 hours from 10 hours and the Flight Duty Period (FDP) to 14.00 hours from 13:00 hours.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has told the pilots' grouping that the exemption has been given on the basis of specific operational reasons cited on flights impacted by longer routing due to Pakistan airspace closure, which may marginally increase flight time on certain sectors, as per a communication.

The extension of up to 30 minutes in in-flight time and up to 1 hour in FDP is allowed only in case where flight time and duty period increases after departure, it said.

Nehru didn't let Sardar Patel unite Kashmir: Modi

Says Cong chose a 'spineless approach', and the country suffered as a result

SATISH JHA
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi near the Statue of Unity at Kevadia in Gujarat. PTI

Paying tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at Ekta Nagar's "Statue of Unity" on the occasion of "Rashtriya Ekta Diwas" in Gujarat's Narmada district, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday criticised Jawaharlal Nehru for "not allowing Patel to unite the entire Kashmir".

He also accused the Congress of adopting an approach that, he claimed, led to the country's long struggles in Kashmir, the Northeast, and even threats from Left-wing extremism.

"Sardar Patel wanted to unite the entire Kashmir, just as he did with other princely states. But Nehru stopped his wish from being fulfilled. Kashmir was divided — given a separate Constitution and a separate flag — and the nation suffered for decades because of the Congress' mistake," said the PM after offering floral tributes to Patel on the occasion of his 150th birth anniversary.

He also claimed the government of that time, instead of following Patel's policies, "chose a spineless approach" because of which the country witnessed bloodshed.

He said national unity also meant respecting the "diversity of thoughts", and that the difference of opinion—and not personal discord—was acceptable in a democracy.

Modi also said: "After Independence, those entrusted with the responsibility of leading the nation attempted to undermine the spirit of 'We the People'... Individuals and organisations with differing ideologies were discredited and political untouchability was institutionalised."

The PM added: "We all know how Congress governments treated Sardar Patel and his legacy, how they treated B R Ambedkar both during his lifetime and after his passing, and how leaders like Subhash Chandra Bose, Ram Manohar Lohia, and Jay Prakash Narayan were sidelined."

"Recently, the RSS completed 100 years, and we saw how the organisation was targeted all these years. Beyond a party or a family, every individual and ideology that didn't align with their views was tried to be made untouchable."

He also said, "We take pride in the fact that we ended this culture of political untouchability which once divided the nation."

PM fulfilled Sardar Patel's dream of unified India: Shah

NEW DELHI, PTI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said it was Prime Minister Narendra Modi who fulfilled Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's dream of a unified India by abrogating Article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir.

Flagging off the 'Run for Unity' on the 150th birth anniversary of the country's first home minister, Sardar Patel, here, Shah said that after India's independence, the British decided to leave the country divided into 562 princely states.

Amit Shah

"At that time, the entire world thought that it would be impossible to unite these 562 princely states into one nation. However, within a short span of time, Sardar Patel accomplished the monumental task of integrating all 562 princely states," he said.

"The only task that remained incomplete was Kashmir's full integration with India due to Article 370, but Prime Minister Modi fulfilled that unfinished task of Sardar Patel—and today, we have before us a truly unified India," the Union home minister said.

Pune entrepreneur wins Rohini Nayyar Prize for rural progress

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Pune-based social entrepreneur Vidhya Parshuramkar was on Friday awarded the 4th Rohini Nayyar Prize for outstanding contribution to rural development.

The annual prize, instituted in 2022 in memory of former economist, bureaucrat, and Padma Shri winner Rohini Nayyar, comes with a cash prize of Rs 10 lakh, a citation and a trophy.

Parshuramkar was given the award at the Capital's Indian International Centre by the chief guest, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council Chairman Prof S Mahendra Dev, as well as economist Deepak Nayyar. Parshuramkar, who worked on an innovation in food nutrition, is the first woman and, at 24, the youngest recipient of the award.

Parshuramkar, a food technologist from IIT Kharagpur, leads Agrozee Organics. Its flagship initiative is Millets Now, through which she has provided nutritional food to over 4 lakh schoolchildren in Maharashtra, Odisha, and Uttar Pradesh. She is also in talks with the Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh governments to take her nutritional food there.

She said that the "personal pain" of facing anaemia as a child goaded her to come up with the innovation. "After college, I decided to work on innovation, eschewing campus placements. I started with a small team, and came up with the technology after I won my first grant of Rs 7 lakh. I started selling laddoos and other products, and put the profits back into the initiative," she told *DH*.

She came up with a technology called HydroNIR, which increased the shelf life of nutrient-dense pearl millets. "I realised that I could fix my anaemia through supplements, but there was no natural way. Bajra is a great source, but its shelf life is only a fortnight. I devised a way of increasing it to six months," she said. She also developed a product that contains seven items made from bajra, and is now distributed in government schools.

(L-R) Dhiraj Nayyar, Deepak Nayyar, Vidhya Parshuramkar and Prof S Mahadev.

2 men attack woman scribe in Delhi; arrested

NEW DELHI, PTI: A midnight drive home turned into a nightmare for a woman journalist when two men on a two-wheeler allegedly chased her across Delhi's expressways, tried to block her way and smashed her car's rear windscreen.

The accused were arrested within hours, police said on Friday.

The 35-year-old woman who works with a private television news channel was returning to her Vasant Kunj home from her Noida Sector 129 office in the intervening night of October 30 and 31. Around 12.45 am, while she was driving on the Mahamaya flyover, two men on a scooter allegedly began following her after she overtook them.

"They tried to block my way and gestured for me to stop. I ignored them, but they continued chasing me. When my car halted in traffic, the pillion rider banged on my windscreen and tried to open the door. Later, he took out a stick and smashed my rear window when I was near DND," the journalist said in an audio clip.

She continued speeding until she reached the Ashram flyover, where she sought help from taxi drivers and called the police.

Police spying on me, entered my bedroom: Maha Cong chief

MUMBAI, DHNS: Maharashtra Congress chief Harshwardhan Sapkal alleged that police have mounted a surveillance on him and policemen have even "entered his bedroom".

Harshwardhan Sapkal

Sapkal, a former MLA from Buldhana, also hit out at Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, who also serves as the state Home Minister.

"This morning, a plain-clothes policeman directly entered my bedroom to conduct surveillance and questioning. This has happened for the third time. On whose orders are we being watched?" Sapkal asked.

Speaking to reporters at Tilak Bhavan, the state Congress headquarters, Sapkal said, "In the morning, a policeman entered my bedroom and began inspecting and questioning me — asking if I was going to hold a press conference and whether journalists had arrived. When I asked why he entered my room and on whose orders, he said it was under senior officers' instructions and asked me to talk to them on the phone."

Kerala no-poverty claim under lens

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

CHORUS OF DOUBT

- Oppn calls claim a gimmick, cites manifesto figures of 4.5L poor families
- LDF minister calls criticism politically motivated
- BJP credits central schemes for poverty reduction

As Kerala prepares to declare the state free of extreme poverty, a group of social scientists has raised questions about the credibility of the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government.

In an open letter, over 20 economists and social activists, including academic RVG Menon and economist K P Kannan, have challenged the methodology used to identify 64,006 families as "extremely poor" and the parameters employed to assert that no such families remain in the state.

The signatories urged the government to make public the study used to identify families in extreme poverty. They questioned whether the 1.16 lakh tribal households in the state and the 5.92 lakh beneficiaries under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana had truly emerged from extreme poverty.

"What credible evidence exists to prove that extreme poverty has been eradicated? If only 64,006 families have been officially identified as extremely poor, does that mean others receiving benefits under various poverty alleviation schemes will now be excluded," the letter asked.

The Pinarayi Vijayan government is set to declare Kerala as the first state to eliminate extreme poverty on November 1, coinciding with the state's formation day.

Opposition leader VD Satheesan criticised the LDF, pointing out that its own election manifesto had identified 4.5 lakh families as living in extreme poverty. "Now they say it's only 64,006. This itself exposes the government's gimmicks," he said.

BJP state president Rajeev Chandrasekhar claimed central government schemes lifted people out of poverty.

Local Self-Government Minister MB Rajesh dismissed the criticism as politically motivated, asserting that the identification of extremely poor families was done transparently.

Meanwhile, ASHA workers in Kerala, on strike for 265 days, will end their protest by Saturday following a Rs 1,000 hike in monthly honorarium.

FINAL FRAME

Zubeen's last film opens to emotional crowds across Assam

SUMIR KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI, DHNS

Fans break down after watching Zubeen Garg's last film in Guwahati on Friday. PTI

Assam witnessed extraordinary scenes on Friday morning as screenings of 'Roi Roi Binale', Zubeen Garg's final Assamese film, began as early as 4.45 am. Fans emerged from theatres teary-eyed, some chanting slogans in tribute to the cultural icon.

The state has been in mourning since September 19, when the 52-year-old singer, musician, actor and filmmaker died while swimming in the sea in Singapore, where he was attending the Northeast India Festival. In the weeks since, fans across Assam have launched online and street-level campaigns demanding justice for Zubeen's family.

The movie, in which Zubeen plays a blind man, left fans emotional. Braving late-night rain and a sudden dip in temperature, many queued outside theatres and multiplexes as screenings began at 4.45 am across the state.

According to distributors, the film has been released on 91 screens across the Northeast, with over 585 daily shows scheduled for the next seven days. Nationally, it's playing on 92 screens with more than 150 shows a day. For the first time, an Assamese film is being screened in cities like Lucknow, Pune, Dehradun, Jamshedpur, Patna, Dhanbad, Jhansi, Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, Kochi, Jaipur, Goa and Indore.

Zubeen, who is also the producer, composed all 11 songs in the movie.

"I can't explain my feelings. In the film, Zubeen da plays a blind man who longs to see the sea. On screen, he returns after fulfilling that dream. In real life, those who were with him in Singapore couldn't bring him back," said Rashmita Saikia, a bank employee, as she stepped out of a multiplex in Adabari, Guwahati.

Scan QR code to watch video

Fans continue to demand accountability for the circumstances surrounding Zubeen's death, insisting that those responsible be punished. A Special Investigation Team (SIT) is currently probing the incident.

Zubeen's wife Garima said the singer had poured his heart into 'Roi Roi Binale' and often spoke about the film, believing it would be embraced with love by the people of Assam.

Distributors said tickets for the film have been booked for the next two weeks, and they expect it to break all revenue records.

On Wednesday, the Assam government announced that its share of GST collected from the film will be donated to the Kala Guru Artist Foundation, a trust founded by Zubeen to support artists.

UIDAI expert panel to make Aadhaar tech future-ready

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has formed an expert panel to make Aadhaar technology future-ready, especially for scalability and resilience against evolving cybersecurity threats, a statement said.

The expert committee is headed by UIDAI Chairperson Neelkanth Mishra.

It comprises UIDAI CEO Bhuvnesh Kumar, Nutanix founder Dheeraj Pandey, MOSIP head of engineering Sasikumar Ganesan, Trilegal partner Rahul Matthan, Amrita University Professor Prabaharan Poornachandran, Michigan State University Professor Anil Jain, UIDAI Deputy Director General Abhishek Kumar Singh, Sarvam AI Co-Founder Vivek Raghavan, and IIT Jodhpur Professor Mayank Vatsa.

"The UIDAI has embarked on a comprehensive strategic and technological review to shape the next decade of Aadhaar's evolution through a new 'Aadhaar Vision 2032' framework," said the statement. The Vision 2032 roadmap would look at not only sustaining Aadhaar's technological leadership but also reinforcing its role as a secure, inclusive, and people-centric digital identity, it added.

The panel is expected to develop the Aadhaar Vision 2032 document, outlining the framework for next-generation Aadhaar architecture aligned with India's Digital Personal Data Protection Act.

Female lawyer gets online threats

NAINITAL, PTI: The Uttarakhand High Court has directed Facebook and other social media platforms to present their side before it in a case involving online threats made to a female advocate.

A division has also made the senior superintendent of police of Dehradun Special Task Force a party to the case.

Earlier, the court had taken suo motu cognisance of the matter and directed the SSP, Nainital to ensure the safety of the advocate.

The man who threatened the advocate has been alleged to be Akhtar Ali, who was convicted a few years ago in Haldwani for the rape and murder of a woman from Pithoragarh.

Ali was awarded a death sentence by a trial court, a verdict upheld by the HC. However, the SC acquitted him. The advocate got the threats after Ali came out of jail.

Probe agencies can't summon lawyers for advising clients: SC

'Unless matter covered under an exception under Sec 132 of Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam'

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Friday held that no summons can be issued against an advocate over legal advice rendered in a criminal case, unless the matter was covered under an exception under Section 132 of the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA).

A bench of Chief Justice of India B R Gavai and Justices K Vinod Chandran and N V Anjaria, however, said the court was not convinced that guidelines could be issued as was done in cases of Jacob Mathews (medical negligence) and Vishakha (sexual harassment), where no legal remedy was available.

In its judgment in a suo motu case registered after issuance of summons to two senior advocates by the Enforcement Directorate, the court declared that the investigating officers would not issue a summons to an advocate who represented the accused to know the details of the case, unless the matter was covered under any of the exceptions under Section 132.

The bench pointed out that Section 132 of the BSA was a privilege conferred on the advocate. The summons to the lawyers would not be issued without the consent of a superior officer not below the rank of superintendent of police, the bench said.

The court also said such a summons would be subject to judicial review.

The bench also declared that no summons can be issued to an advocate for the production of documents in civil and criminal cases. The court, however, said in-house counsel will not be entitled to the privilege under Section 132 since they are not advocates practicing in courts as spoken of in the BSA.

Both Attorney General R Venkataramani and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta refused to take an adversarial stance since the issue affected the large body of advocates in the country whose voice is the voice of the victim, the marginalised and the downtrodden, the court noted.

With regard to the request for laying down guidelines, the bench said, "The power of the police officer to investigate a cognisable offence, as provided under Section 175 BNSS, even without the order of a magistrate, cannot be regulated by any guideline issued by us, especially when sufficient guidelines are available under Sections 132 to 134 of the BSA."

The court stressed that a police officer issuing a summons to an advocate under Section 179 would be cautioned by the provisions of Section 132 in not expecting any disclosure of a privileged communication.

Never called for violence, Umar Khalid tells top court

NEW DELHI, DHNS

Former JNU student activists Umar Khalid, Sharjeel Imam, and others — arrested under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act or the UAPA in a conspiracy case in relation to the 2020 Delhi riots, on Friday contended before the Supreme Court that they never gave any call for violence and were only exercising their rights when peacefully protesting against the Citizenship Amendment Act.

Khalid claimed before a bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and N V Anjaria that there are 751 FIRs in the Delhi 2020 riots, and he was charged in only one of them. If it were a conspiracy, it was a bit surprising, he said.

They moved the apex court against an order passed by the Delhi High Court that rejected their bail in a case registered under the UAPA.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Khalid, questioned the Delhi Police's claim in its counter-affidavit that his client was responsible for delaying court proceedings. He contended that there was no evidence linking his client to violence and denied the conspiracy charges.

"On the dates when the riots took place, I was not in Delhi," Khalid argued through Sibal.

The counsel contended that there had been no recovery of funds, weapons, or any material evidence linking him to the 2020 Delhi riots. "Not a single witness has given a statement that connects him to any actual incident of violence in North-east Delhi," he claimed.

He submitted that Khalid was entitled to bail on grounds of parity, noting that fellow activists Natasha Narwal, Devangana Kalita, and Asif Iqbal Tanha were granted bail in June 2021.

Senior advocate Siddharth Dave, appearing for Sharjeel Imam, contended that the police took three years to complete their investigation. "Out of the five years I have spent in custody, three went by because the probe was still ongoing," Imam pointed out.

SC insists on chief secys' personal appearance in stray dogs case

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Friday declined a plea by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta seeking exemption for chief secretaries of states and Union Territories from physical appearance in the stray dog menace case, saying: "Let them come personally."

In response to a request by Mehta to allow the officers to appear virtually, a bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta said there was no respect for the court's order, as it had made it clear that the chief secretaries would have to appear physically before the court on November 3 in the case. "We are trying to solve issues that state governments should have solved. They show no respect for our order. When we require them to come and file compliance affidavits, they are just sleeping over it... Let them come; we will deal with them. They must file compliance affidavits," said the bench. Mehta again requested a direction from the court for the chief secretaries to appear through video-conferencing. "Sorry, they have to come physically to the court," the court said.

The development came a day after the court refused to allow the Bihar government's plea to allow the state's chief secretary's personal-appearance exemption in the menace.

On October 27, the Supreme Court directed the chief secretaries of all states and UTs to appear before it on November 3 over non-compliance with order.

Apex court quashes Pocso conviction after survivor marries accused

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court has quashed a Pocso case against a man for he married the victim, who expressed her desire to live a "peaceful and stable family life after being blessed with a son".

It emphasised that the administration of criminal law should not be divorced from the practical realities.

Setting aside the conviction of K Kirubakaran and sentence of 10 years jail, a bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Augustine George Masih said, rendering justice demands a nuanced approach, and this court tailors its decisions to the specifics of each case: "with firmness and severity wherever necessary, and it is merciful when warranted."

The court said, "It is also in the best interest of society to bring a dispute to an end, wherever possible. The law aims to ensure not just punishment of the guilty, but also harmony and restoration of the social order."

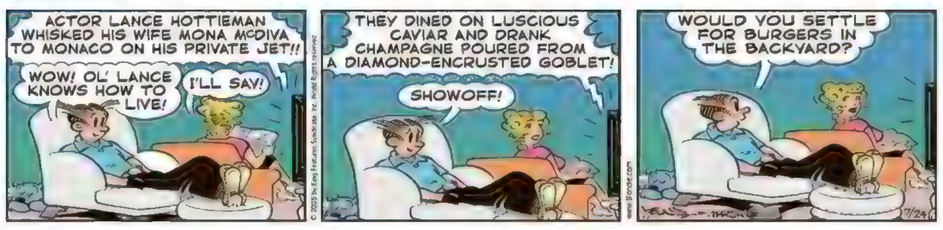
The bench found that the appellant and the victim were not only legally married, they were also in their family way. "Considering the offence committed by the appellant punishable under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act, we have discerned that the crime was not the result of lust but love," the bench said.

In view of the victim's assertion, the court said that the continuation of the criminal proceedings and the appellant's incarceration would only disrupt this familial unit and cause irreparable harm to her and the infant child, and the fabric of society itself.

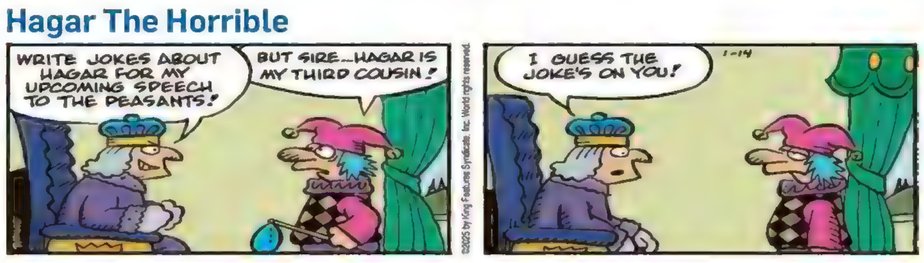
MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie



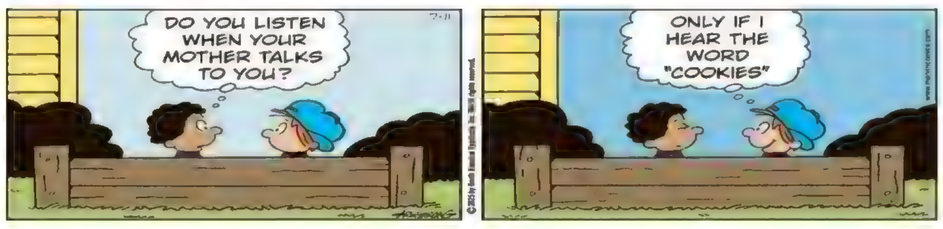
Hagar The Horrible



Beetle Bailey

Peanuts

Marvin



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CIHNF

IPTNE

DWOSIM

EFLWOL

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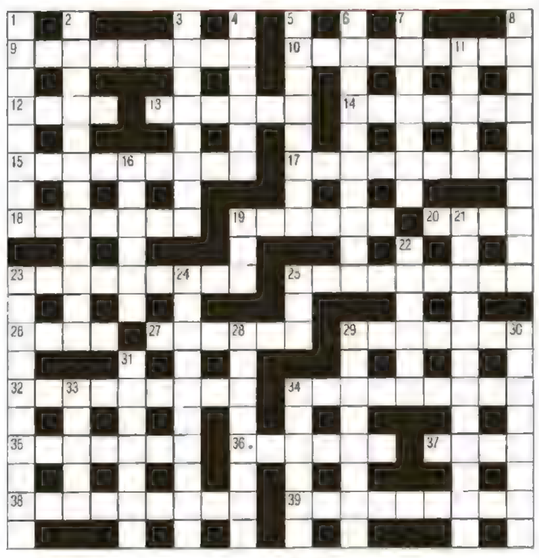
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here: ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: VOCAL TEETH FEWEST INNING
Answer: Figuring out who has a big ego is easy when people start talking. — THE "I'S" HAVE IT

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 4012



ACROSS
9 Malefactor (9)
10 Mostly (2,3,4)
12 Sham (4)
13 Each (6)
14 Carriage (7)
15 Reptile (9)
17 Cherished (9)
18 Fell (7)
19 Buccaneer (6)
20 Metal (4)
23 Cake (5,4)
25 Favoured (9)
26 Level (4)
27 Gypsy (6)
29 Ghost (7)
32 Will (9)
34 Pleasant (9)
35 Serious (7)
36 Fatal (6)
37 Fruit (4)
38 Act for (9)
39 Meet (9)

DOWN
1 Insincere (3-5)
2 Disregarded (4,2,6)
3 Abided by (8)
4 Current (6)
5 Board member (8)
6 Insect (4,6)
7 Compunction (7)
8 Presented (10)
11 More competent (5)
16 Resist (6)
19 Friend (3)
21 Peevishness (12)
22 Ebb (6)
23 Darling (10)
24 Alert (2,4,4)
25 Wages (3)
28 Remedy (8)
29 Vestment (8)
30 Eternally (8)
31 Bet (7)
33 Fight (5)
34 Astonished (6)

CRYPTIC

ACROSS
9 Like a schoolmaster on holiday - not at his best (3,2,4)
10 With blurred vision, it is not very understandable (4,2,3)
12 Lap up wallop (4)
13 Made an effort, but the best end got overcooked (6)
14 Justify one's desire to get hold of an expensive car (7)
15 Not whom you wish to escort and not when (5,4)
17 Writes in red "Is possibly a vending machine" (9)
18 Tell to check the numbers (7)
19 When eleven was sounded, seemed tired (6)
20 Only fifty-one (4)
23 Loud and just awful (9)
25 Exhausted, it is clear, by the bumpy ride (9)
26 Buttonhole the girl (4)
27 Slide over and quickly get into (4,2)
29 Witnesses the seizure and considers it right to (4,3)
32 What silly butchers do at their conference? (4,5)
34 It's ice on the peak, you fool! (9)
35 Reveals unintentionally that one does tailoring alterations (4,3)
36 Would show the niece to be possibly about five (6)
37 Cracked back "Will flabbergast you" (4)
38 It ensures that the pan won't get burnt (9)
39 Won't have it the lad is slow, anyhow (9)

DOWN
1 He's not the first to be an adherent (8)
2 They don't represent a lot of money to a restaurateur! (5,2,5)
3 Put right in to touch, shrink from (8)
4 Lay it on with "I am to act as model" (6)
5 Will it bleat if you don't take it for a walk? (8)
6 It means a mass shouting (5,5)
7 Was the first time and one took a good look round it (7)
8 Be first, perhaps, to last the person you can most rely on (4,6)
11 Doesn't go off to get the props (5)
16 Having no French polish! (6)
19 Note that starts off the dawn chorus (3)
21 Now that I think about it, no! (2,10)
22 Don't go for a decent run! (6)
23 To start with be embarrassed by the early enthusiasm (5,5)
24 How the camper with the evil designs came to grief? (4,6)
25 Have a quarter on hold (3)
28 Gives one about ten, all crumpled, to iron (8)
29 What was paid for the leopard? (4,4)
30 Order it up when you have a meal on the ship (8)
31 It's bearing your weight so do not shake it (5,2)
33 People no longer speak it, but Upman can (5)
34 Complains about a number of the shades (6)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12278

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 1, Pixie 6, St.-ubs 9, Slander 10, B-L-oom 11, Rum-my 12, Serve 13, Engaged 15, Hoe 17, Igor 18, Action 19, Dixie 20, Heston 22, Base 24, Ti-e 25, Bloomer 26, Mar-I-e 27, Sh-O-ut 28, Title 29, Sea lion 30, Dyfed 31, Peeps (Pepys).
DOWN: 2, I'd-ling 3, I-so-bar 4, Elm 5, Unwed 6, Service 7, True 8, Bamboo 12, Set in 13, Eight 14, Go-ose 15, Hiram 16, E-NT-er 18, Aisle 19, Don-a-Ted 21, Eighty 22, B-ovine 23, Sell up 25, Billy 26, Muse 28, Top.

EASY
ACROSS: 1, Trust 6, Apple 9, Condone 10, Sport 11, Canny 12, Peril 13, Stopper 15, Now 17, Cede 18, Intone 19, Flint 20, Amuses 22, Tend 24, Pam 25, Decides 26, Stair 27, Agape 28, Fatal 29, Ordered 30, Dents 31, Defer.
DOWN: 2, Repute 3, Scrape 4, Tot 5, Adder 6, Ancient 7, Peal 8, London 12, Peels 13, Scrap 14, Odium 15, Nosed 16, Weeds 18, Inter 19, Festers 21, Mangle 22, Tirade 23, Negate 25, Dines 26, Spot 28, Fed.

◆SU-DO-KU-6740◆

		3	5		4		7	
9				2				
	8		9					2
			1			2		8
	9						4	
6		5			2			
5					7		9	
				1				3
	3		2		6	7		

hard

SOLUTION TO 6739

8	7	9	6	3	4	2	1	5
4	1	5	7	2	9	6	8	3
3	6	2	1	5	8	4	7	9
5	8	6	9	4	3	7	2	1
1	3	4	2	7	5	9	6	8
9	2	7	8	1	6	5	3	4
6	4	1	5	8	7	3	9	2
2	9	3	4	6	1	8	5	7
7	5	8	3	9	2	1	4	6

To solve the puzzle:
To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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R1	C3	A1	A1	N1	N1	H4	Double Word Score	RACK 1
T1	S1	R1	H4	E1	E1	B3		RACK 2
D2	O1	U1	O1	O1	R1	U1		RACK 3
E1	E1	L1	V4	N1	U1	U1	Triple Word Score	RACK 4

PAR SCORE 80-90
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

O1 R1 A1 T1 O1 R1	RACK 1 =	6
O1 A1 T1 C3 A1 K5 E1	RACK 2 =	89
G2 I1 L1 D2 E1 D2	RACK 3 =	18
S1 P3 I1 L1 L1 S1	RACK 4 =	8
PAR SCORE 80-90	JUDD'S TOTAL	121

HITORI-3194

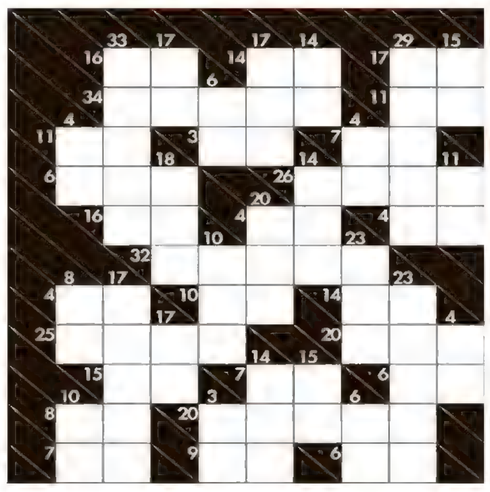
2	3	4	3	6	8	3	7
7	4	1	2	2	6	3	5
1	5	6	3	1	3	3	8
3	1	1	4	3	2	7	1
6	2	3	1	5	3	8	6
8	6	3	3	7	1	3	4
4	1	2	6	7	5	1	3
6	3	7	3	4	1	2	3

SOLUTION TO 3193

■	7	■	2	6	8	5	4
5	4	6	1	■	2	■	3
■	6	■	7	8	1	2	■
6	3	8	■	7	■	1	5
4	8	5	6	■	7	■	1
8	■	7	■	1	5	4	■
■	5	4	8	2	■	3	6
2	1	■	5	■	4	8	■

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3194



SOLUTION TO 3193

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3722

■								1
6	■						■	
		■		7		5		
8			■		4	7		
9		4		■				2
	1		■	9	■		6	
		■	5	6		■		
	■			8			9	
	2	8	1				5	■

SOLUTION TO 3721

9	8	1	4	5	2	3	7	6
4	3	2	8	7	6	5	1	9
6	5	7	3	9	1	4	8	2
7	4	9	1	6	8	2	3	5
3	1	8	9	2	5	7	6	4
2	6	5	7	3	4	8	9	1
1	2	3	5	8	9	6	4	7
8	9	6	2	4	7	1	5	3
5	7	4	6	1	3	9	2	8

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

Radio Free Asia to halt news operations due to funding troubles

WASHINGTON, AP/PTI: Radio Free Asia says it is shutting down its news operations on Friday with its financing in dire straits due to the US government shutdown and the Trump administration's moves against government-funded news services.

Since 1996, Radio Free Asia has been an independent news source operating online and on broadcast, particularly in areas where the free flow of information is repressed.

It has been operating with a skeleton staff the past few months, primarily producing a few stories online as the administration has sought to choke off its funding. Trump's team has contended that RFA, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and Voice of America are a waste of government resources.

"In an effort to conserve limited resources on hand and preserve the possibility of restarting operations should consistent funding become available, RFA is taking further steps to shrink its already reduced footprint," said Bay Fang, RFA's president and CEO.

Trump urges Senate to scrap filibuster to end govt shutdown

WASHINGTON, AP/PTI: Back from a week abroad, President Donald Trump is calling on the Senate to scrap the filibuster and reopen the government after a month-long shutdown, breaking with majority Republicans who have opposed such a move.

Trump said in a post on his social media site on Thursday that "the choice is clear—initiate the nuclear option, get rid of the filibuster."

Trump's sudden decision to assert himself in the shutdown debate—bringing the highly charged demand to end the filibuster—is certain to set the Senate on edge. It could spur senators towards their own compromise or send the chamber spiralling towards a new sense of crisis.

Trump has long urged Republicans to get rid of the Senate rule that requires 60 votes to overcome objections, dating back to his first term in office.

Not considering strikes on Venezuela: US

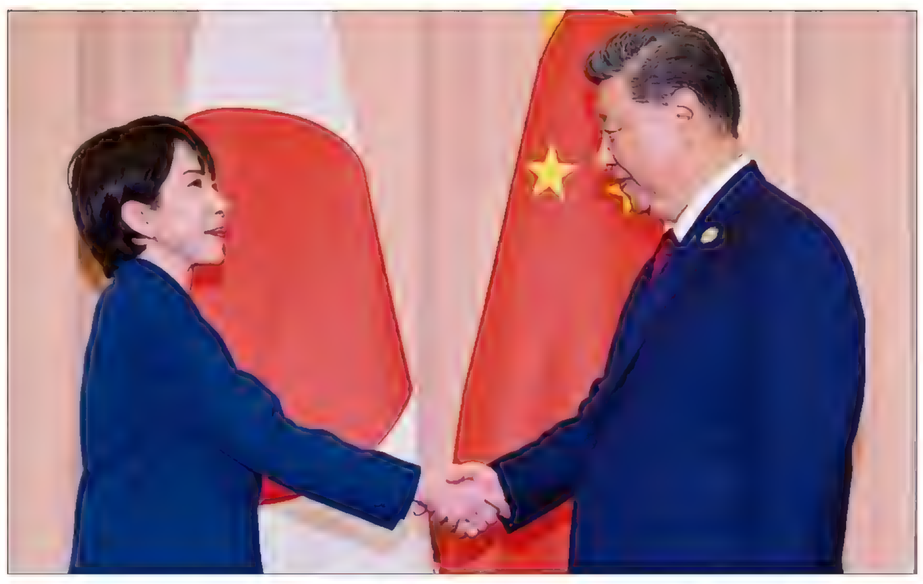
WASHINGTON, AFP: President Donald Trump said Friday he is not considering strikes on Venezuela, which fears a major US military buildup is aimed at regime change in Caracas.

The US has deployed eight US Navy ships to the Caribbean, sent F-35 stealth warplanes to Puerto Rico and an aircraft carrier strike group is en route to the region—a massive military force that Washington insists is aimed at curbing drug trafficking.

Xi warns nations against joining US' anti-China drive

Beijing courts Asia-Pacific amid tensions over supply chains

NYT NEWS SERVICE



Japan's Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi (left) with Chinese President Xi Jinping ahead of the Japan-China summit in Gyeongju on Friday. AFP

Chinese leader Xi Jinping, the de facto geopolitical heavyweight at an Asia-Pacific economic summit, on Friday courted countries for trade and investment but also implicitly warned them not to join the US in reducing the world's reliance on Chinese supply chains.

President Donald Trump's departure from South Korea a day earlier meant that Xi was the sole superpower leader at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in the city of Gyeongju. At the opening of the meeting, Xi could be seen smiling as he greeted world leaders and economic and finance ministers who came up to meet him.

Xi seized his time in the spotlight to pitch China, the world's second-largest economy and a manufacturing powerhouse, to a room that included the leaders of Japan, Canada, Australia and the host, South Korea. But not everyone in the room was an easy sell. He met with Prime Minister Mark Carney, recently spurned by Trump, and invited him to visit China. He even had what appeared to be a candid meeting with Japan's new leader, Sanae Takaichi, an outspoken critic of China, who seemed to highlight the limits of Xi's outreach.

Earlier, in a speech at the summit's opening, Xi called for the strengthening of industrial supply chains, making a veiled criticism of Western attempts to shift factories away from dependence on China. He said China would "adhere to the principle of 'joining hands' rather than 'letting go,' and 'extending chains' rather than 'breaking chains.'"

In a separate speech to business leaders, read out by a Chinese representative, Xi also took an indirect swipe at the US, saying APEC economies should "oppose protectionism, resist unilateral bullying and prevent the world from returning to the law of the jungle."

That appeal for solidarity, however, was somewhat undermined by China's recent actions. In October, Beijing proposed sweeping new export controls on rare earth minerals that would have given it extraordinary power over other nations. China dominates about 90% of the global supply of these minerals, which are vital for producing modern technologies such as semiconductors, batteries and aircraft. China had introduced the rare earth controls in response to US trade measures, but the move alarmed many other countries.

Xi arrived at the summit on something of a diplomatic high, a day after talks with Trump that resulted in a truce. Importantly, China agreed to put on hold the new export controls on rare earths. On Friday, though, Xi encountered a more openly critical interlocutor in Japan's new prime minister. Takaichi told reporters that she had raised Japan's concerns about the export controls on rare earths and issues like territorial disputes in the East China Sea.

Canada's Carney agrees to visit China after meeting Xi

Canada's Prime Minister Mark Carney agreed to visit China after meeting with President Xi Jinping on Friday, in an encounter that may have marked a turning point, Reuters reports. Xi and Carney met on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in Gyeongju, which was part of Carney's tour of Asia aimed at deepening trade and security ties in the region as Canada strives to reduce its dependence on the US.

Trump declines to clarify if US will conduct nuclear tests

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE, AP/PTI: President Donald Trump on Friday declined to say whether he plans to resume underground nuclear tests, following a social media post this week that raised concerns the US might restart such tests for the first time in three decades.

When asked if he intended to resume underground nuclear detonations, the president told reporters, "You'll find out very soon," without offering further explanation.

Speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One on his way to Florida for the weekend, Trump said, "We're going to do some testing," and added, "Other countries do it. If they're going to do it, we're going to." He then refused to provide additional details.

His remarks have caused confusion both inside and outside the government after his brief post appeared to suggest that the US would resume nuclear warhead testing on an "equal basis" with Russia and China, whose last known tests took place in the 1990s. Some of Trump's comments seemed to refer to testing missiles that deliver warheads rather than the warheads themselves. There has been no indication that the US intends to detonate nuclear devices.

The US military routinely tests missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads, but it has not conducted an actual nuclear detonation since 1992. The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, which the US signed but never ratified, has been observed by all nuclear-armed nations since its adoption, with North Korea being the only exception.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

China's Long March-2F rocket blasts off at the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center on Friday. AP/PTI

China sends country's youngest astronaut, mice to space station

▸ A new crew took off for China's space station on Friday, including the country's youngest ever astronaut and four lab mice, AFP reports from Jiuquan.

The Long March-2F rocket carrying the Shenzhou-21 mission crew lifted off at 11:44 pm from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China, AFP journalists saw. The Tiangong space station is the crown jewel of China's space programme, into which billions of dollars have been poured in a bid to catch up with the United States and Russia. China has bold plans to send a crewed mission to the Moon by the end of the decade and eventually to build a base on the lunar surface. Mission commander and veteran space pilot Zhang Lu is accompanied by 32-year-old flight engineer Wu Fei, China's youngest astronaut to undertake a space mission, and payload specialist Zhang Hongzhang, 39. The three astronauts waved goodbye to colleagues and family members at the remote launch base in the Gobi Desert as a band played a patriotic song.

Indian-origin man gets 25-yr jail

▸ An Indian-origin man has been sentenced to 25 years in jail by a Canadian court in a three-year-old homicide case, PTI reports from Ottawa.

A jury at the Supreme Court of British Columbia convicted 25-year-old Balraj Basra of first-degree murder and arson on Tuesday, City News reported. Basra is the third man to be sentenced in the killing of 38-year-old Vishal Walia at a golf club on the lands of the University of British Columbia on October 17, 2022, CBC reported on Wednesday, citing the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team. The two other convicts, Iqbal Kang (24) and Deandre Baptiste (21), were sentenced earlier. While Kang was jailed for 17 years with an additional five-year concurrent sentence for arson, Baptiste was sentenced to life in prison with no parole eligibility for 17 years, the report said.

Revellers take part in Halloween celebrations in the Lan Kwai Fong area of Hong Kong on Friday. AFP

Sri Lanka hails Indian assistance

▸ Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya on Friday expressed gratitude to the government of India for continuous assistance in the island nation's education sphere, PTI reports from Colombo.

Amarasuriya was addressing a gathering in the north central region of Polonnaruwa, the Indian High Commission said. The Indian High Commissioner Santosh Jha and the Lankan PM were guests at the handing over ceremony of the Multi-Ethnic Trilingual School in Polonnaruwa, built with an Indian grant. The Indian financial assistance to the project stands at over SLR 320 million. Amarasuriya expressed gratitude to the Government and people of India for the project and said that with the handing over, India has done its part, and now it is the Sri Lankan government's responsibility to take the initiative forward.

Jetten claims win in Dutch poll

▸ Dutch centrist leader Rob Jetten on Friday claimed victory in a knife-edge election over far-right head Geert Wilders, saying his surprise success showed populist movements could be beaten in Europe, AFP reports from The Hague.

The 38-year-old head of the D66 centrist party is now on track to become the youngest and first openly gay prime minister of the European Union's fifth-largest economy. With far-right parties on the march in France, Germany, and Britain, the Dutch vote was seen as a bellwether for the strength of populists in Europe. Jetten told AFP his positive message of optimism had convinced the Dutch electorate and delivered victory over the anti-Islam, anti-immigration Wilders.

Melissa claims nearly 50 lives

▸ Hurricane Melissa was "moving quickly away" from Bermuda early Friday after the death toll rose to nearly 50 people, AFP reports from Santiago de Cuba.

The ferocious storm has devastated Caribbean islands and is expected to become an "extratropical cyclone" later in the day, reaching the northeastern United States and eastern Canada, the National Hurricane Center said. "After Melissa becomes post-tropical, a brief period of heavy rain and gusty winds is possible over the southern Avalon Peninsula of Newfoundland tonight," the NHC added. Flooding was expected to subside in the Bahamas although high water could persist in Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti and neighboring Dominican Republic. The storm, one of the most powerful ever recorded, was made four times more likely because of human-caused climate change.

King Charles strips brother Andrew of titles, mansion

Andrew faced growing scrutiny over ties to Epstein

LONDON, REUTERS

Britain's Prince Andrew with King Charles at the Westminster Cathedral in London. REUTERS FILE

Britain's King Charles has stripped his younger brother Andrew of his title of prince and forced him out of his Windsor home, Buckingham Palace said on Thursday, seeking to distance the royals from him over his links to the Jeffrey Epstein scandal.

Andrew, 65, the younger brother of Charles and second son of the late Queen Elizabeth, has come under mounting pressure in recent years over his behaviour and his ties to the late sex offender Epstein. Earlier this month he was forced to stop using his title of Duke of York.

Charles has now escalated his actions against Andrew by stripping him of all his titles, leaving him to be known as Andrew Mountbatten Windsor.

The Buckingham Palace said a formal notice had now been served on Andrew to surrender the lease of his mansion on the Windsor Estate and he will move to alternative private accommodation on the Sandringham estate.

The decision by the king, who is still undergoing regular treatment for cancer, marks one of the most dramatic moves against a member of the royal family in modern British history. "These censures are deemed necessary, notwithstanding the fact that he continues to deny the allegations against him," the palace said. "Their Majesties wish to make clear that their thoughts and utmost sympathies have been, and will remain with, the victims and survivors of any and all forms of abuse."

Andrew was once a dashing naval officer who served in the military during the Falklands War. But he was forced to step down from a roving UK trade ambassador role in 2011, before quitting all royal duties in 2019 and then was stripped of his military links and royal patronages in 2022 amid allegations of sexual misconduct that he has always denied.

US sanctions Indian national, wife over human smuggling

NEW YORK, PTI

An Indian national, his wife, and their organisation that smuggled people into the US from across continents, along with at least 16 companies, have been sanctioned by US federal authorities.

Officials said that Vikrant Bhardwaj and his Cancun, Mexico-based transnational criminal organisation, the Bhardwaj Human Smuggling Organisation (HSO), blended various transportation methods to move undocumented migrants from countries posing national security concerns to the United States, using its own yachts and marinas.

Bhardwaj, his HSO, three other individuals, and 16 companies that facilitated and profited from the criminal activities have been sanctioned by the US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC).

The transnational criminal organisation (TCO) smuggled thousands of illegal migrants from Europe, the Middle East, South America, and Asia into the United States. In addition to human smuggling, the organisation is also engaged in drug trafficking, bribery, and money laundering.

Bhardwaj, a dual Indian-Mexican national, is the leader of the Bhardwaj HSO. A self-identified founder and chief executive officer of several companies in Mexico, India, and the UAE, he collected and laundered illicit money through his marinas and other businesses. He has been able to evade law enforcement authorities while continuing to profit from human smuggling and drug trafficking, the US Treasury said on Thursday.

Bhardwaj's wife Indu Rani is also a dual Indian-Mexican national who is involved in her husband's financial operations and serves as a co-shareholder of several companies in India and Mexico.

In addition to exposing key individuals of the Bhardwaj HSO, OFAC designated India-based real estate company Veena Shivani Estates Private Limited for being owned or controlled by, or having acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Bhardwaj and Rani.

US lawmakers urge Trump to scrap H-1B fee, warn of hit to India ties

NEW YORK/WASHINGTON, PTI: US lawmakers have urged President Donald Trump to reconsider his proclamation on H-1B visas, including the $1,00,000 fee, asserting that Indian nationals are central to America's leadership in information technology and artificial intelligence, and warning that the restrictions could harm US-India relations.

US Representative Jimmy Panetta, along with Members of Congress Ami Bera, Salud Carbajal, and Julie Johnson, wrote to Trump on Thursday.

The lawmakers expressed concern over Trump's proclamation, "Restriction on Entry of Certain Nonimmigrant Workers", which imposes a $1,00,000 fee on new H-1B petitions, among other restrictions.

They urged him to reconsider the September 19 proclamation, citing its potentially negative impact on the US-India partnership.

"As members of a recent delegation to India, we recognise the importance of the H-1B programme not just to the US economy, national security, and competitive advantage, but also to our relationship with India and to the Indian-American communities we represent. We respectfully request that you suspend the September 19 proclamation," they wrote.

They added that at a time when China is "investing aggressively" in artificial intelligence and advanced technologies, the US must continue attracting the world's best talent to maintain its "innovation ecosystem, strengthen the defence industrial base, and preserve its long-term competitive edge."

Usha not Christian, has no plans to convert: Vance

NEW YORK, PTI

US Vice President J D Vance and his wife Usha Vance. AFP FILE

Amid criticism over his comments about his interfaith marriage, US Vice President J.D. Vance said on Friday that his wife, Second Lady Usha Vance, has no plans to convert to Christianity but added that he hopes "she may one day see things as I do."

Vance has faced backlash after remarks he made about his interfaith marriage, saying he eventually hopes that Usha, who grew up in a Hindu household, "is somehow moved by the same thing that I was moved by the church." A post on social media criticised his statement, saying, "It's weird to throw your wife's religion under the bus, in public, for a moment's acceptance by groypers."

Responding on X, Vance wrote, "What a disgusting comment, and it's hardly been the only one along these lines."-First off, the question was from a person seemingly to my left, about my interfaith marriage. I'm a public figure, and people are curious, and I wasn't going to avoid the question," he said.

"Second, my Christian faith tells me the Gospel is true and is good for human beings. My wife—as I said at the TPUSA—is the most amazing blessing I have in my life. She herself encouraged me to re-engage with my faith many years ago.

"She is not a Christian and has no plans to convert, but like many people in an interfaith marriage—or any interfaith relationship—I hope she may one day see things as I do. Regardless, I'll continue to love and support her and talk to her about faith, life, and everything else, because she's my wife."

Vance made the initial comments on Wednesday at a Turning Point USA event at the University of Mississippi. He was questioned by a young South Asian woman about his faith, his interfaith marriage to Usha, and the Trump administration's immigration policies.

Responding to her, Vance said that on most Sundays, Usha attends church with him.

"I've told her, and I've said publicly—and I'll say now in front of 10,000 of my closest friends—do I hope eventually that she is somehow moved by the same thing that I was moved by the church? Yes, I honestly do wish that, because I believe in the Christian Gospel, and I hope eventually my wife comes to see it the same way," he said. "But if she doesn't, then God says everybody has free will, and that doesn't cause a problem for me. That's something you work out with your friends, your family, and the person you love."

Ford to revive Chennai plant to manufacture powertrains

This is Ford's first powertrain facility outside the US

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

American automobile giant Ford on Friday announced an investment of Rs 3,250 crore in reviving its Maraimalai Nagar plant near here -- lying dormant for four years -- to produce new-generation powertrains, in a significant development that comes amidst the tariff war and defies the US government's push for local manufacturing.

This will be Ford's first powertrain manufacturing facility outside the US with a capacity to produce 2.35 lakh engines annually, providing 600 jobs. The old factory, which downed its shutters after Ford exited the Indian market in 2021, will now be remodelled to manufacture powertrains.

Though the engines will start rolling out from the facility in 2029, site preparation and investment in the project will begin soon with the company expected to start construction work, as early as Monday.

"We are pleased to advance our plans and confirm the Chennai plant's vital role in Ford's manufacturing network," said Jeff Marentic, president, International Markets Group, Ford Motor Company, said in a statement.

The engine lineup planned for production in Chennai will feature all-new technology and specific details about the engine type and export markets will be shared closer to the start of production, the statement added. The release further said with an initial expected investment of Rs 3,250 crores, the project is expected to create more than 600 jobs, plus indirect jobs across the industry.

Sources said the powertrains manufactured at the new factory will be exclusively for the export market as Ford doesn't operate in India. It was not immediately clear whether the powertrains will be exported to the US.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) to this effect was signed between Jeff Marentic, president, International Markets Group, Ford Motor Company, and V Arun Roy, Secretary (Industries), in the presence of Chief Minister M K Stalin. The investment pledge and MoU signing comes over a year after Stalin met the top management of Ford during his US visit following which the automobile major announced the revival of its facility.

Though the announcement was expected given Ford's commitment in 2024, it has come at a time when the US has imposed a tariff of 50% on Indian imports and is pushing for localisation. During his meeting with Marentic, Stalin pushed Ford to use the Chennai factory for manufacturing cars like it used to before 2021.

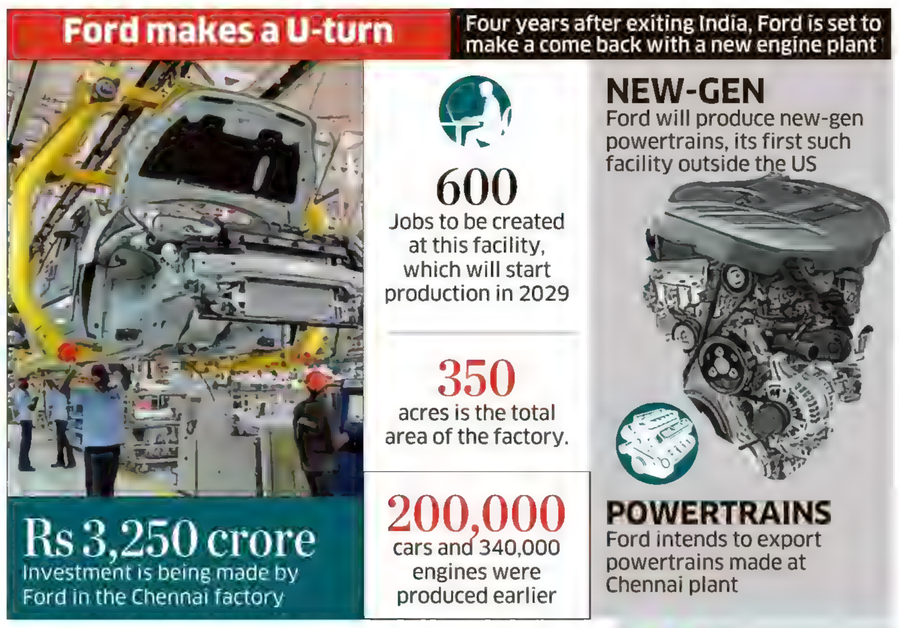
"The significance of this announcement is that we have made this possible in the current geopolitical situation," Industries Minister T R B Raaja said.

The investment pledge from Ford is a major victory for the Tamil Nadu government's efforts since 2021 to either push Ford to restart operations or facilitate the company to sell the facility to another automobile company. Tata Motors, MG Motors and Vietnam's VinFast are some of the automakers that evinced interest in buying the plant, but none of these deals came through.

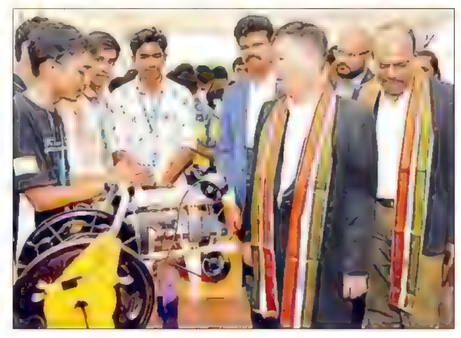
The development also reinforces Tamil Nadu's standing as the country's automobile hub – the state is already home to Hyundai, Renault-Nissan, and BMW. While Vietnamese EV manufacturer Vinfast has built a greenfield factory in Thoothukudi, home-grown Jaguar Land Rover-Tata Motors is building a massive facility in Panapakkam in Ranipet district to build passenger cars.

Ford had exited India in 2021 citing losses after it failed to make its business model successful in the highly price sensitive Indian market. It had indicated in 2022 that it might enter the Indian market yet again with a couple of electric vehicle (EV) models and utilise the Maraimalai Nagar plant, but went back on its decision the same year.

Spread over an area of 350 acres, the company had an annual production capacity of around 200,000 vehicles and 340,000 engines. Ford was one of the first global auto giants to set shop in India in the 1990s by building a massive production unit in Maraimalai Nagar. Ford's entry into Chennai in 1995 laid the foundation stone for the city emerging as India's very own Detroit.



VIT Chennai's three-day TechnoVIT'25 is on



Racha Aribarg interacts with students demonstrating a model at TechnoVIT'25.

The 10th annual TechnoVIT – a global event where students compete in technical events and competitions - began at Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) Chennai yesterday. Over 10,000 students from all over India and 10 foreign nations including Thailand, Poland, Australia, Philippines, Myanmar, Taiwan and Uzbekistan, among others, are taking part in the three-day TechnoVIT'25 event.

Racha Aribarg, Consul-General, Royal Thai Consulate-General, Chennai, was the chief guest and delivered the inaugural address. Prince Jayakumar D, Executive Vice President, HCLTech, was the guest of honour and Dr G V Selvam, Vice President, VIT, presided.

Racha Aribarg called on the youth working in the sphere of engineering and science to use technology to help senior citizens and society, and contribute to fighting organised crime. "The world-over, there is a serious issue of digital divide – a gap of knowledge between young and the elderly. Spend some time with elders, as otherwise, they will be left behind, unable to use technology in their daily lives," he said.

Dr G V Selvam said the recent developments in the ties between USA and India resulted in a 44 per cent decrease in Indian students going there for higher studies, resulting in 'Study in India, Make in India.' Stating there was a general perception that the Indian education system was mostly theoretical, Dr Selvam said technoVIT'25 proved this notion wrong as it demonstrated the innovative capabilities of engineering students, who put their academic knowledge into practical applications. At VIT Chennai, the endeavour is to make students apply what they learn to create products to benefit society, he added.

Prince Jayakumar said a lot of acceleration is taking place in the domains of advanced technologies, especially artificial intelligence and quantum computing. "In the next decade, India will emerge as an innovation capital, and the youth's contribution will be huge. It is crucial to leverage technology to build applications and use quantum computing to make the world a better place", he added.

Over 150 technical events will be held over three days, with an overall prize money of over Rs 10 lakhs. In addition, there are more than 40 hands-on workshops which help students hone their practical skills.

VIT Chennai's Pro Vice-Chancellor Dr T Thyagarajan, Director Dr K Sathiyanarayanan and Additional Registrar Dr P K Manoharan were present.

Curated by DH Brandspot

CORPORATE SCOREBOARD Q2FY26

Godrej Consumer posts profit decline as tax cuts disrupt sales

Godrej Consumer Products (GCPL) reported a quarterly profit drop on Friday, hurt by a temporary sales disruption following the government's sweeping tax cuts. Consolidated net profit fell 6.5% to Rs 459.34 crore in the second-quarter ended September 30.

Revenue rose 4% to Rs 3,825.09 crore, while expenses climbed 6.4%. Short-term disruptions notwithstanding, the tax cuts were a "welcome structural reform" set to strengthen long-term consumer demand, the company said.

GCPL Managing Director and CEO Sudhir Sitapati described Q2 FY26 as a "resilient quarter" for the company "especially given the backdrop of the GST transition in India and continued macroeconomic challenges in Indonesia".

Vedanta's adjusted profit rises on higher metal prices

Metals-to-oil conglomerate Vedanta reported higher quarterly adjusted profit on Friday, helped by higher metal prices.

The company's consolidated profit before tax and exceptional items rose 21.7% from a year earlier to Rs 7,014 crore in the quarter ended September 30.

Its operating profit margin rose to 22% from 20%, aided by steady expenses.

The benchmark three-month aluminium and copper rose 8.2% and 5.6% on-year during the quarter due to uncertainty around US trade policies. Higher commodity prices tend to support selling prices and margins for mining companies.

The miner's total revenue rose 5.5% to Rs 39,218 crore.

Revenue from the aluminium segment rose 14%, copper gained 3.6%, while its India zinc, lead and silver segment grew 3.5%.

Total expenses rose 0.8% to Rs 33,449 crore. The company reported a net exceptional expense of Rs 2,067 crore, which included a write-off of Rs 1,407 crore and a settlement payment of Rs 660 crore.

BPCL net profit jumps 169% on refining margin boost

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) on Friday reported a 169%t jump in its September quarter net profit on the back of a surge in refining margins.

Its standalone net profit for the quarter was Rs 6,442.53 crore as against Rs 2,397.93 crore earned in the same period last year, according to a stock exchange filing by the company.

The company earned $10.78 on turning every barrel of crude oil into fuels like petrol and diesel, compared to a gross refining margin of $4.41 per barrel in July-September 2024.

The revenue from operations was up 3% at Rs 1.21 lakh crore.

BPCL registered quarterly domestic sales of 12.67 million tonnes, a growth of 2.26 % over 12.39 million tonnes in Q2 FY25.

Its board approved an interim dividend of Rs 7.5 per equity share.

ACC profit jumps on cement price rebound, volumes beat

Cement producer ACC reported a second-quarter profit jump on Friday, as prices rebounded on-year and volumes came in higher than expected in a seasonally weak period. Pre-tax profit was Rs 757 crore for July-September, more than double from last year. The company received a tax write-back of Rs 671 crore in the reported quarter. Meanwhile, revenue rose 28% to Rs 5,817 crore, helped by a 16% rise in volumes. Data from at least five brokerages showed that the expected growth was between 4% and 14%. Shares of the company rose 2% after results.

-Agencies

Orkla readying Rs 700 crore for inorganic growth

Scouts for food brands across North & Western India

MAHESH KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

Orkla India Ltd, which owns southern packaged foods maker MTR and Eastern, has drawn up an aggressive strategy to grow its business in India both organically and through acquisitions. The company is actively looking for packaged food brands in the northern and western India markets to acquire, said Sanjay Sharma, Managing Director & CEO of Orkla India Ltd.

"We are a debt-free and cash-rich company. We currently have a cash reserve of Rs 350 crore and every year, we are generating between Rs 300 crore and Rs 400 crore cash every year. We will have a cash reserve of Rs 700 crore by the end of FY26. All of this cash will be used for acquisition. Additionally, we also have an option to raise debt if required," Sharma told *DH*.

The company has so far made two acquisitions in Karnataka and Kerala. It acquired Bengaluru-based MTR Foods in 2007 and Kerala-based Eastern Condiments in 2021 and has grown both the brands. It has a strong base in southern states and is now eyeing acquisition of popular brands in other parts of the country, mainly north and western India, he said.

"I love all brands in India. Every state in India has one or two popular brands. I am looking for partnerships with such brands across the country," Sharma said.

Orkla aims to penetrate deeper into southern markets with its two brands - MTR and Eastern and expand through new brands in other brands. "We have had a presence all across the country for many years. But we want to increase our market share for MTR and Eastern in southern states," he said.

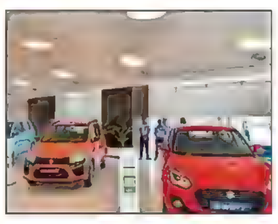
Sharma said the company is planning to roll out a stock option programme for some of its employees. Currently, it pays a cash incentive to them.

Orkla India has a strong global footprint, with exports to 45 countries. In Fiscal 2025, revenues from customers outside India contributed 20.6% (Rs 486.17 crore) of the total revenue from the sale of products. According to the Technopak Report, Orkla India held an approximately 22.2% market share in the Indian branded spices exports segment in fiscal 2024. Furthermore, the Eastern brand has maintained its position as India's largest exporter of branded spices for 24 consecutive years.

MTR and Eastern are the most widely distributed brands in Karnataka and Kerala for spices, with a presence in 67.5% and 70.4% of relevant outlets, respectively, far exceeding the industry average. This network is supported by nine owned manufacturing facilities in India and several contract manufacturers, all holding high-standard quality certifications.

GST cut sparks small car revival: Maruti Suzuki Chairman

NEW DELHI, PTI



The GST rate reduction has sparked the revival of small cars, proving wrong the perception that Indian consumers have moved up to aspirational and bigger segments, and some of the car manufacturers are expected to revise their product mix, Maruti Suzuki India Chairman R C Bhargava said on Friday.

The company is also close to taking a decision on its plan to set up a fifth manufacturing plant and an announcement is expected in the next few months, Bhargava told reporters in an earnings conference.

On account of the impact of the GST rate cut on overall car sales, Bhargava also said Maruti Suzuki is likely to revise its production and sales projections for 2030-31.

"We had record retail sales during the festival period, largely driven by small car sales. Bigger cars are also selling, but not quite that much," he said.

Under the GST 2.0 regime, petrol, LPG and CNG vehicles of less than 1,200 cc and not more than 4,000 mm length and diesel vehicles of up to 1,500 cc and 4,000 mm length were lowered to 18% rate from the earlier 28% plus cess.

Citing sales performance of October, the first full month after the new GST rates came into effect, Bhargava said, "Our retail sales growth in the '18% GST' category grew by 30%. Big cars have also grown by around 4-5%. Overall we have seen a growth of 20% in retails."

Q2 net profit rises 8%

The car maker on Friday reported an 8% rise in consolidated net profit to Rs 3,349 crore for the second quarter ended September 30, driven by robust exports growth.

Its consolidated total revenue from operations stood at Rs 42,344.2 crore against Rs 37,449.2 crore in the year-ago period, it added.

The company's total expenses in the second quarter rose to Rs 39,018.4 crore from Rs 33,879.1 crore a year ago.

Mphasis Q2 net profit up 11% to Rs 469 crore

BENGALURU, DHNS: IT solutions provider Mphasis has reported a 10.8% increase in its consolidated net profit for the quarter ended September 2025, to Rs 469 crore, compared to Rs 423 crore in the year-ago period. The company's revenue from operations in the second quarter stood at Rs 3,902 crore, a 10% increase compared to Rs 3,536 crore in the same quarter last year.

Its operating margin in the second quarter stood at 15.3% and it reported new TCV (total contract value) wins of $528 million in Direct, of which 87% is in new-gen services.

"Our early, focused investments in AI have positioned Mphasis as a strategic partner for clients navigating their transformation journey. Another strong quarter of TCV wins of $528 million is a testimony to our AI-first approach," said Nitin Rakesh, CEO and managing director, Mphasis.

Quess Corp Q2 net profit up 2% YoY

BENGALURU, DHNS: Staffing and workforce solutions company Quess Corp has reported a 2% year-on-year (YoY) increase in its consolidated net profit for the quarter ended September 2025, at Rs 51.6 crore compared to Rs 50.5 crore in the year-ago period. Its revenue from operations in the second quarter stood at Rs 3,832 crore, a 3% growth, compared to Rs 3,705 crore in the same quarter last year.

Guruprasad Srinivasan, ED and Group CEO, said that they continue to deliver non-linear growth. "Our operating EBITDA margin has improved to 2%, up by 13 basis points YoY. Growth has been primarily driven by the General Staffing segment, with a festive headcount addition of 21,000, taking the overall headcount to 4,83,115. Our Professional Staffing business, largely led by IT staffing in the GCC segment, continues to showcase strong YoY growth in revenue, EBITDA, and operational EBITDA margin at 11%, 37%, and 236bps, respectively," he said.

He also added that they are experiencing tailwinds in Q3 from the new GST reforms, which will help the company's growth journey over the next two quarters.

In its General Staffing segment, its net headcount addition stood at 21,000 associates. In Q2, it added 72 new contracts. In the Professional Staffing segment, the IT staffing achieved an EBITDA of Rs 27 crore and maintained a double-digit EBITDA margin of 12+%. In this, GCCs have a significant share with 73% of headcount and contribute 77% of gross margin.

Quess is expected to maintain a steady growth over the next two quarters, supported by rising staffing demand across manufacturing, retail, and logistics, following the recent GST reforms. The company is also likely to deliver a consistent double-digit operating EBITDA margin in its Professional Staffing business.

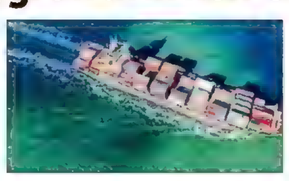
ICEA, GSA join hands to strengthen semiconductor ecosystem

BENGALURU, DHNS: The India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA) and the Global Semiconductor Alliance (GSA) announced a collaboration on Friday aimed at accelerating the country's integration into the global semiconductor value chain. The announcement was made in Bengaluru, and through this collaboration, both ICEA and GSA aim to leverage India's expanding talent base, evolving fab and OSAT (outsourced semiconductor assembly and test) infrastructure, and strong policy support to attract global fabless companies and innovators to co-create in the country.

Building on this collaboration, ICEA and GSA will jointly organise the India Semiconductor Leadership Summit in 2026, and the Summit will bring together the global fabless ecosystem, design innovators, and technology leaders to engage directly with India's emerging fabs and OSAT/ATMP units, showcasing India's expanding semiconductor manufacturing base and design leadership.

Under the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), the Government of India has approved an outlay of Rs 76,000 crore to build semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystems. Around ten projects with investment commitments of nearly Rs. 1.6 lakh crore, including a fabrication unit, ATMP/OSAT facilities, and compound-semiconductor initiatives, have already been sanctioned.

India's textiles, gems & jewellery, marine exports see strong growth in non-US markets



NEW DELHI, PTI: India's exports of textiles, gems and jewellery, and marine products recorded healthy growth in several non-US markets during January-September 2025, reflecting a broad-based diversification in the country's outbound shipments, according to the commerce ministry data.

Exports from these sectors to destinations such as the UAE, Vietnam, Belgium, and Saudi Arabia recorded sharp increases, driven by rising demand across Asia, Europe, and West Asia.

The data showed that India's marine exports during January-September rose 15.6% year-on-year to $4.83 billion, driven primarily by surging demand in several non-US destinations.

While the US continues to remain the top individual destination ($1.44 billion), the sharpest expansions have been recorded in Vietnam (100.4%), Belgium (73.0%), and Thailand (54.4%), reflecting a growing diversification of India's seafood trade footprint within Asia and Europe.

Substantial increases were also noted in China (9.8%), Malaysia (64.2%), and Japan (10.9%), highlighting sustained appetite for Indian marine products across key Asian consumption hubs.

"A clear trend of export diversification is visible, with emerging destinations such as Vietnam and Belgium gaining market share, while established Asian partners like Thailand, Malaysia, and China have deepened their import volumes," an official said.

The diversification reduces India's overdependence on the US market, where Indian exporters are facing a steep 50% tariff, and indicates a strategic pivot toward resilient, multi-market growth, supported by India's improving seafood processing capacity, traceability compliance, and trade linkages under free trade frameworks, the official added.

Similarly, the country's textiles exports are making inroads into new and emerging markets such as Peru and Nigeria.

India's textile exports recorded a modest but positive growth of 1.23% during January-September 2025, reaching $28.05 billion, reflecting a phase of gradual recovery supported by robust demand in several non-US markets.

The abandoned CASTLE

Ashrafi Antia spins a chilling tale of a road trip gone wrong in the misty Scottish Highlands

Steve and Sara were enjoying their scenic road trip through the Scottish Highlands. Sara took in the picture-postcard view of autumn trees with red and orange leaves, standing tall against the backdrop of the mountain slopes.

Suddenly, they heard a loud bang. Spirals of steam rose from the bonnet, fogging the windscreen, as their car coughed and spluttered to a halt. Steve got out to take a look under the hood. Something seemed to have burnt out. No matter how much he tried, the car wouldn't restart.

He took out his phone to call the Automobile Association but found that there was no network. Sara's phone had no signal too. What were they supposed to do stranded on this lonely, winding road in the Scottish wilderness?

Scanning the horizon, they spied a turret peeping through the tall trees in the distance. Steve took out his binoculars and zoomed in. He saw the imposing façade of an old castle amidst the forest trees.

"Perhaps we can get some help or make a call if they have a landline," said Steve. He looked at his map. There it was — Dunmacloud castle.

Locking the car, they trudged through the forest towards the castle. Dried leaves crackled underfoot. Suddenly, a sound like a rifle-shot broke the silence of the woods. Steve ducked instinctively. Sara laughed. "That was just me stepping on a twig of dried wood. Don't be so jumpy," she giggled.

After a long trek, they came upon the castle, surrounded by barbed-wire fencing. "Anybody there?" shouted Steve. His voice echoed back, but there was no reply. It seemed like there was no one at home.

They ducked under the fencing to get closer to the building and realised that it was just the facade that was standing. Parts of the tower were crumbling. Rafters and beams were strewn on the floor. There was no roof — it lay open to the elements. Plants sprouted from the mossy walls. The castle was an abandoned ruin. A board nailed to the wall read 'Dunmacloud castle'. It looked like the castle had burnt down. Sara muttered under her breath, "I wonder what ghosts wander through these crumbling hallways?"

Just then, the skies rumbled and opened up, pelting them with heavy rain. Sara and Steve ran to take shelter in the tower that still had part of its roof. Cobwebs brushed against their faces in the dark. Gradually, their eyes adjusted to the dim light.

A ghostly screech rang through the tower, whilst a shadow fell across its charred walls and disappeared in a flash. They heard a rustling noise, accompanied by another piercing wail. Through chattering teeth, Sara cried out, "G..gh..ghost!".

Just then, an owl fluttered past them and out the open window. "Oh! It's just a barn owl. Did you know that they're also called ghost owls or screech owls?" Steve said knowledgeably. "An apt description," mumbled Sara who had been scared out of her wits.

The room they were in, resembled a dungeon with iron bars across the doorway and manacle-like metal rings on the walls. Sara shuddered and moved backwards involuntarily. Her foot splashed into a puddle of reddish liquid on the muddy floor. Sara stepped back, bumping into Steve and pointed at the pool of liquid. "Blood," she said, quaveringly. Mustering up his courage, Steve stuck a finger in it. It was thin; not viscous like blood. Swirling his finger around in the pool, he saw red moss beneath the surface. That explained the reddish tinge. "It's probably just a rainwater puddle," he reassured Sara.

As night fell, it turned pitch dark. At least, their phone torches would work until the batteries died. There was no sign of the rain stopping. "Looks like we'll have to spend the night here," said Steve. Rummaging in the pockets of his overcoat, he found some biscuits and chocolate that would serve as their meagre meal.

At midnight, they were woken by bats flying in and out of the tower. Sara screamed, "What if there is a vampire and that really was a pool of blood?" "Don't let your imagination go wild," Steve said, but felt a shiver run down his spine, at the thought of vampires. Steve decided to keep vigil and stayed up all night. He was relieved when daylight finally broke.

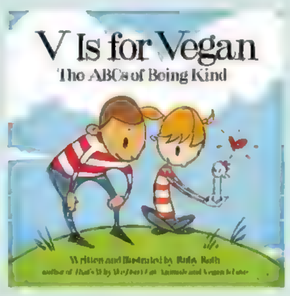
Once the rains ceased and the mist cleared, they stepped out and saw a road winding its way past the castle. To their luck, a car was approaching. They ran towards it, hands waving and asked for help. The kind driver took them to the nearest town garage and arranged a tow truck for their car.

Whilst waiting for their car to be repaired, Steve and Sara learnt about the castle's history from the local innkeeper. "Dunmacloud was burnt down by rebels in an uprising about 200 years ago. Some townsfolk believe that the ghost of Sir Reginald Macloud still roams the castle's halls. They say he's turned into a blood-thirsty vampire," he said with a wink. Sara turned pale, recalling their eerie night at the abandoned castle. Did she really have a wild imagination, who could say? What a strange, spooky tale, they had to tell!

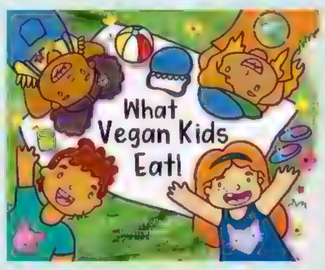
4 BOOKS ON VEGANISM

Today is World Vegan Day

V Is for Vegan: The ABCs of Being Kind



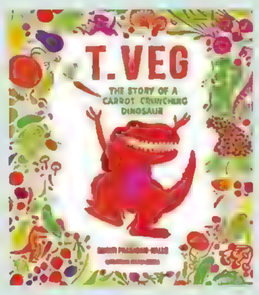
Author: Ruby Roth
In this 32-pager, each letter opens a new window into the world of kindness — "A is for animals", "B is for beans", "C is for compassion". With Ruby's signature rhymes and quirky, hand-drawn illustrations, she turns the alphabet into a celebration of empathy, health and the planet. A suitable pick for children aged three to seven, it uses humour and simplicity to introduce concepts like plant-based food, caring for animals, and mindful living.



What Vegan Kids Eat!

Author: Amber Pollock
This colourful book answers a question that pops up on most foodies' minds — what do vegan kids actually eat? From pizza to pancakes, tacos to ice cream, this 32-page picture book celebrates the diversity of plant-based food. Amber's cheerful tone and lively illustrations depict through the pages that "compassion doesn't mean compromise". Suitable for children aged four to eight, the book encourages children to take pride in their choices.

T. Veg: The Story of a Carrot-Crunching Dinosaur



Author: Smriti Prasadam-Halls
In 'T. Veg...', Smriti tells the story of a T-Rex who refuses to conform to his carnivorous crowd — Reginald loves crunching on carrots than chewing meat. Teased by friends and feeling out of place, he embarks on a journey to find himself, which teaches him to celebrate who he is. Told using playful rhyme alongside vibrant illustrations by Katherina Manolessou, this is a story about courage and self-acceptance. It is suitable for children aged five to eight.

Not a Nugget

Author: Stephanie Dreyer
The 36-page book's humorous, heartwarming approach aims to help kids see animals as friends. The book features a curious little boy who looks at farm animals — chickens, pigs, cows and fish — and realises they're not just "nuggets", "bacon" or "sticks", but living beings with personalities. Through witty one-liners and cheerful illustrations by Jack Veda, Stephanie encourages empathy among readers without guilt. The book can serve as a conversation starter that helps children connect their love for animals with what's on their plate. Ideal for readers aged five to nine.

LETTER WRITING

Write an open letter to your shadow

If you got the chance to have a conversation with your shadow, what would you like to know about it, and what would you tell it about you? Write an open letter and share it with us. You stand a chance of being featured in an upcoming edition. Mail your work to *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in.* Open to children below 16 years. Don't forget to mention your name, age, and city, and send us a recent photograph. Entries close on November 6.

Word of the Week

zeitgeist
(noun)
— the defining mood of a particular period of history as described through ideas and beliefs of the time.

Usage:
— The film captured the zeitgeist of the 1960s, resonating with an entire generation.
— Social media embodies the zeitgeist of our digital age.

Can one person MAKE A DIFFERENCE to the world?

Open Sesame readers talk it out

YES

Many say one drop cannot make an ocean, but the ocean begins with that one drop. Yes, any individual can change the world. When Mahatma Gandhi walked barefoot against the British Empire, the world said he was mad, but his truth shook the thrones. When Nelson Mandela rose from the prison cell to make his nation independent and when Greta Thunberg, a young girl, challenged world leaders to protect our planet, everyone questioned them. Each of them began as one but ended as many.

Change does not wait for crowds, it begins in the heart of one brave soul who refuses to give up. One idea can transform minds, one kind act can transform hearts, and one invention can reshape the world. We think we are too small to matter, but even the tiniest spark that arises in us can start a wildfire of hope.

Yes, one person can change the world, not with magic but with courage, passion and determination. Because, change does not start with "us", it starts with "me".

TARUSH GURUPRASAD, 11
Bengaluru, Karnataka

NO

One person alone cannot change the world. One person can create awareness and request everyone to join him or her to bring about a change.

The moral 'United we stand, divided we fall', conveys that unity and cooperation leads us to success. Teamwork always paves the way to victory. One person alone cannot make a change in this vast world but small efforts from everyone can make a difference.

Teamwork allows sharing of work, which reduces the burden on a single person. For example, if someone's dream is to keep the world clean and green, the dream can only be achieved when everyone keeps their localities spic and span, and grows more trees.

Monopoly in a team will only make the team lose, but if everybody gets the chance to contribute with determination and perseverance, the team will emerge victorious.

VIHAAN J G, 13
Bengaluru, Karnataka

POETS IN THE MAKING

Want to see your poetry in print?

Send in poems on the topic 'A scene from my window' to *Open Sesame.* You may be featured in an upcoming edition. Mail your work — not more than 12 lines — to *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in.* Entries close on November 13. Open to children below 16 years. Don't forget to mention your name, age, and city. And send us a recent photograph.

This Week:

November nuggets

Open Sesame Quiz

Take the fun Open Sesame quiz, and stand a chance to win gift vouchers worth Rs 500. Open to children below 16 years.

Q1 On November 1, 1848, 12 students began classes in Boston, at the first ever educational institution to train women in the field of medicine. Who was the founder of the college?

Q2 Which American industrialist and philanthropist (born on November 25, 1835) donated most of his enormous fortune during his lifetime, famously declaring, "The man who dies rich, dies disgraced."?

Q3 On November 19, 1863, president Abraham Lincoln delivered his memorable, 2-minute, Gettysburg Address. Who was the main orator on that occasion, whose 2-hour speech is largely forgotten today?

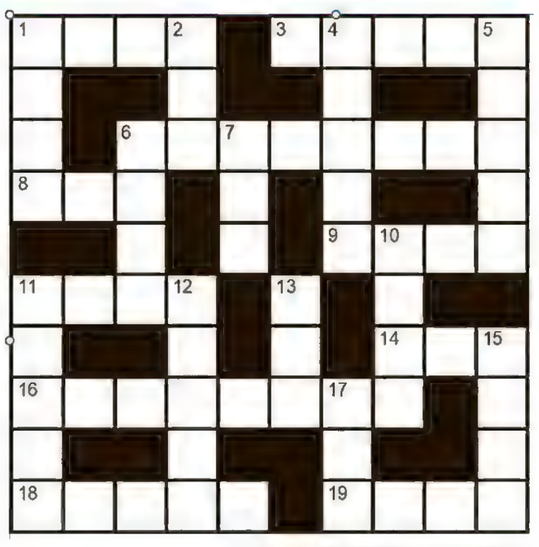
Scan the QR code
Or visit bit.ly/DHopensesame to participate in the quiz.

Q4 **Rhyme Time:** Two clues to which the answers rhyme with each other.
Clue A: Born on November 14, 1889, Jawaharlal Nehru did his schooling at __.
Clue B: Not wide.

Q5 **Clue Cluster:** During the course of November 1922, whose tomb was discovered by archaeologist Howard Carter?
Use these clues.
a) Egypt
b) Ruler
c) Young
d) Treasure

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: Sujata (15), Bengaluru; Anagha M (11), Bengaluru; Jayan Kumar (15), Bengaluru.

CROSSWORD



BY CHITTARANJAN ANDRADE

Across
1 What a student writes in (4)
3 A group of students in school (5)
6 Imparted knowledge to students (8)
8 Twitching movement (3)
9 Sisters in a convent (4)
11 Norse god (4)
14 Small, fairylike creature (3)
16 They work in schools (8)
18 Truck (5)
19 School table (4)

Down
1 Ink stain (4)
2 Small child (3)
4 To acquire knowledge (5)
5 What a triangle has three of (5)
6 Reverberation of sound (4)
7 North American country (3)
10 Utilises (4)
11 Result of addition (5)
12 To happen again (5)
13 One, in cards (3)
15 Item of cutlery (4)
17 Metal stick (3)

ANSWERS
Across: 1 Book, 3 Class, 6 Educated, 8 Tic, 9 Nuns, 11 Thor, 14 Elf, 16 Teachers, 18 Lorry, 19 Desk
Down: 1 Blot, 2 Kid, 4 Learn, 5 Sides, 6 Echo, 7 USA, 10 Uses, 11 Total, 12 Recur, 13 Ace, 15 Fork, 17 Rod.

The government talks about the importance of the 'golden hour', the crucial 60 minutes after a serious medical event, to save lives. But do government hospitals understand the urgency? DH journalist Amullya Shivashankar goes incognito to find out

What I saw in hospital

emergency rooms

As Bengaluru winds down for the night, the emergency room at Victoria Hospital is a hive of activity. Outside, the wail of an ambulance siren pierces the air, briefly drowning out the groans of patients and the desperate prayers of families waiting for hours. Amid the chaos, a young man paces up and down, pleading for a doctor to help his mother, slumped in a wheelchair and gasping for breath after a severe asthma attack. While they wait, the golden hour, the crucial first 60 minutes, quietly slips away. Over the next few days, I learn that this is the story of a majority of patients who turn up at government hospitals.

In early 2025, the Supreme Court in the S Rajaseekaran vs Union of India case, ruled that access to trauma care during the golden hour is a constitutional right under Article 21 (the right to life). The court directed the Union government to roll out a nationwide cashless treatment scheme for accident victims by March 14, 2025. The court also warned that non-compliance would be charged under contempt of court. As a health reporter for this daily, I am keen to know how this is being implemented. That is how I find myself at the hospital, near K R Market in the heart of the old city, on a weekday evening in late October.

My idea is to spend a few hours in the emergency room and write a fly-on-the-wall account of how it works.

Suicide attempt

Around 11.30 PM, an elderly man staggers in with his son, who is around 35 years old. The young man has attempted suicide by consuming phenyl. With tears in his eyes, the father walks around looking for a doctor and a vacant bed. He is unsuccessful on both counts. The victim is trembling as his body cannot handle the chemical reactions. A post-graduate student posted at the hospital checks his vitals 50 minutes after their arrival.

A man is rolled in on a stretcher after a heart episode. Fast forward 35 minutes and the patient still lies there waiting to be attended to. Finally a doctor shows up, checks his vitals, and leaves to fetch an ECG machine. He only returns after 40 minutes. Before the patient is sent in for further treatment, two hours have passed.

As I watch, a road accident victim is wheeled in by two women of his family. No ward boys are in sight. A patient suffering from liver failure lies on a bed while his family waits for a bed to be allocated. Chairs meant for attendants become beds as doctors hook some patients with IV fluids.

Caught on camera

Amid the anxious families waiting outside, a woman pulls out her phone to take a photo of the ward. She immediately faces the ire of a member of the housekeeping team, who forces her to delete the photos. A few minutes later, another man approaches her and points to a CCTV camera and tells her he saw her taking a photo. She explains that it is only to reassure her family back home that she is being attended to. Ignoring her explanation, he snatches the phone and goes to the picture gallery. Talk about priorities — preventing photography, rather than saving lives, comes first!

Bowring experience

The scenes are no different at the Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital located in Shivajinagar. A woman in her early 20s walks into the emergency room complaining of breathing problems and chest pain. The doctor points her towards a bed. A few minutes later, a doctor checks her vitals and blood pressure and recommends an ECG. She wheels in the ECG machine and asks her to take off her shirt. I look around. The emergency room is filled with male patients, their attendants, security guards and doctors. She requests the doctor to draw the curtains for privacy. She refuses and tells a senior doctor that the patient is uncomfortable getting an ECG with the curtains open. The doctor, without missing a beat, says: "Give her some tablets and send her away. There is nothing we can do if she does not want the ECG."

Five hours

I strike up a conversation with a family. A man collapsed at home due to liver issues. Though the doctors advised immediate treatment in the ICU, the family has been in the emergency room for about five hours, holding a file and waiting for attention. He has been put on IV fluid but they have lost hope, sitting around and waiting for a bed.

The family holds Below Poverty Line (BPL) cards, and is eligible for free treatment but was asked to pay up. "We shelled out Rs 3,000 already. We don't have thousands and lakhs to pay at a private hospital, so we come here," a young woman says when I ask her why they are waiting instead of going elsewhere.

A 24-year-old woman, an accident victim, is wheeled in by her family, with no hospital staff to help her. She is in severe pain and needs immediate attention. It takes almost 25 minutes for the doctors to just attend to her.

Marginally better

K C General Hospital in Malleswaram is relatively better. It could be because the emergency room does not see as many people as the other two big government hospitals.

A young woman with breathlessness enters the emergency room, and the doctors are faster. After the usual blood pressure test, the doctor prescribes an ECG but no female staffer is around to do it. The female nurses arrive more than half an hour later. They close the curtains to do the test. Privacy not compromised.

Three people in different instances who came in with dog bites are sent out to buy the anti-rabies vaccine (ARV) — neither the hospital nor the attached pharmacy has it in stock. According to the National Rabies Control Program, all government hospitals must provide the vaccine free of cost to everyone who comes in with a dog bite, irrespective of their economic status.

The gate closest to the emergency ward is closed. This forces ambulances to take a longer route, resulting in an additional detour that takes four to six minutes. Many inoperational ambulances are parked on the hospital premises. Even as the government continues to invest in new ambulances, idle vehicles stand as a reminder of maintenance neglect.

To reach my cab, I walk through poorly lit premises. People are fighting and physically abusing each other. It is like a gang war. I walk past the gynaecology ward. The entrance has at least 80 patient attendants sleeping on the floor waiting for the pregnant women inside to deliver.

After a week of observing the emergency wards, I arrive at my final location — Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Trauma Care and Orthopedics in Byrasandra, Jayanagar. The hospital is mainly meant to treat victims of road accidents. Head injuries, especially, call for super-quick attention. I enter the emergency department but can find no doctors for 30-35 minutes.

An accident victim with broken limbs arrives in an ambulance. After a few minutes, the doctor checks the patient in the ambulance and comes back. About 30 minutes pass before the patient is brought into the emergency room. The sheer lack of urgency is appalling. The patients and their families complain that the doctors take a long time to attend to patients. BPL card holders pay non-subsidised charges for X-ray and other tests.

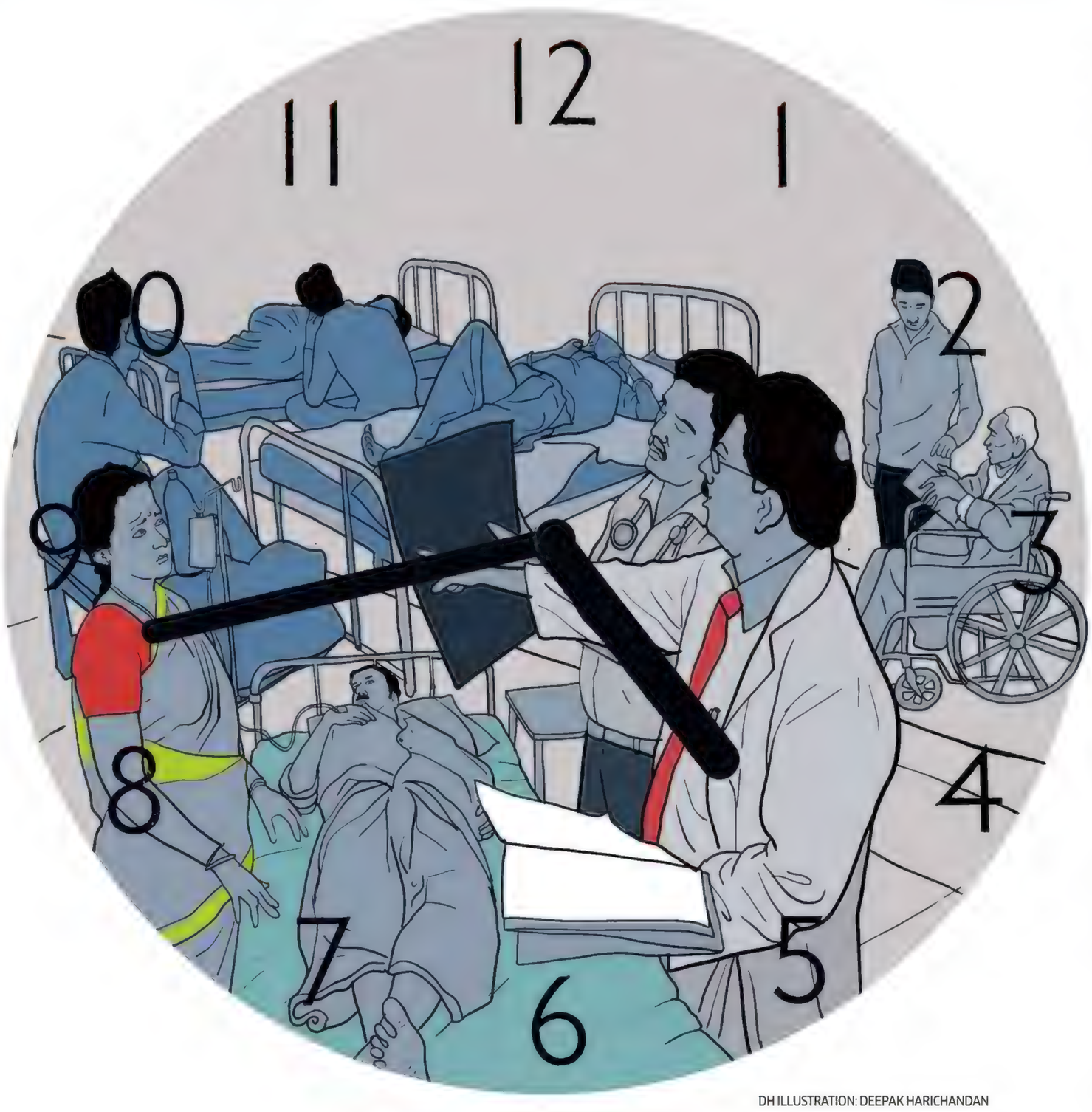
Critical hour

Senior neurosurgeon Dr Sunil V Furtado, explains that 'golden hour' is the time immediately after a life-threatening medical event — it is when medical and surgical treatment can prevent complications like bleeding, organ damage and failure, and long-term disability, and improve chances of survival.

Studies show up to a 25% reduction in mortality for trauma patients and a 50% improvement in recovery outcomes for patients who receive timely treatment, he explains.

An Indian study published in the *International Journal of Medicine and Public Health* found that about 42% of a sample population was aware of the golden hour for heart attacks and stroke.

In government hospitals across Bengaluru, which shoulder most of the emergency load, especially of the less privileged, scenes like these unfold night after night — a blur of bodies, noise and unanswered calls for help. Every delay — caused by shortage of beds, missing stretchers, closed gates, apathetic staff — eats into the crucial hour that can determine whether a patient lives or dies. The golden hour care is not a luxury. It is a right.



DH ILLUSTRATION: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

Govt emergency care schemes

Many schemes are intended to help during the golden hour, but not much help is forthcoming on the ground.

- Mukhyamantrigala Santwana Harish Scheme: Free and urgent treatment for the first 48 hours after the accident to all accident victims regardless of their economic status. All injuries, including burns, fractures, and head and spinal trauma, are covered.
- The Karnataka government launched the Dr Puneeth Rajkumar Hrudaya Jyothi in 2023, after movie star Puneeth Rajkumar died from a heart attack. It is meant to provide emergency cardiac care within the golden hour. Cardiac arrest-linked deaths that were screened and treated under this scheme were 608 in 2024-2025 and 229 in 2023-2024.
- In 2024, the Karnataka government bought 65 new ambulances, including 26 fitted with ventilators, for quick transportation of patients during the golden hour.

Clock ticking

EMERGENCY	GOLDEN HOUR
Heart attack	One hour
Accident	One hour
Respiratory and airway crisis	One hour
Stroke	3.5 to 4.5 hours
Internal bleeding	One hour

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MUSICANA

Year-long festival launched to celebrate violin in Karnatik music

Vijaya College of Music is honouring the eminent violin educator H V Krishnamurthy with concerts all through the year, writes N Krishnamurthy

Vijaya College of Music, a premier institution in Bengaluru's Jayanagar, is marking the birth centenary of its founder, professor H V Krishnamurthy, with monthly concerts through the year. The celebrations focus on the violin and honour the work of violinists playing Karnatik classical music. Launched on September 28, the festivities end with a grand finale in October 2026 (see box).

Albert Einstein once said, "I know that the most joy in my life has come to me from my violin." An anonymous quote goes, "If music is life, violin is its soul." The violin is an integral part of any Karnatik concert today. But did it always enjoy pride of place?

According to veena exponent Shanti Rao, the veena was once the standard accompaniment for vocalists, but its importance waned because of its poor volume. "When acoustics improved, the violin took over with a better throw of sound and continuity," she said, as cited in a 2017 article in a daily.

Ravanastron is an ancient bowed instrument. It is said to resemble the modern-day violin. Right: **H K Venkatram is a leading violinist and the principal of Vijaya College of Music, Bengaluru.**

So how did the violin gain its current status? Textual references cite an ancient bowed instrument called the Ravanastron (or Ravanahatha), linked to the mythical Ravana. In the *prakara* of the Nataraja temple in Chidambaram, a 13th-century sculpture shows a woman playing an instrument similar to the European violin. Such evidence has led many scholars to believe that violin-like instruments existed in India centuries before the European violin arrived.

The adoption of the violin is widely ascribed to Baluswami Dikshithar, brother of Muthuswamy Dikshithar, one of the trinity of great composers in Karnatik music. Baluswami (1786-1859) learnt to play the violin from a European tutor. After years of practice, he began to play Karnatik tunes on this "new" instrument. Others who contributed to the cause include Vadivelu, a student of Dikshithar.

Playing the violin has since evolved to closely resemble human singing (gayaki style). The violin trinity — Lalgudi Jayaraman, T N Krishnan and M S Gopalakrishnan — developed distinctive *banis* (styles), later continued by their disciples. For Jayaraman, the violin had to *sing*. He moved it from a background instrument to one played centre stage. When he accompanied vocalists, audiences came to hear him play rather than the lead singer.

Today, artistes are experimenting with new technology — from contact mics to electric violins.

(The author is the founder of a tech company. He writes about music and travel).

Felicitations

As part of the year-long celebrations, awards will be presented to violinists. At the inauguration, five legends — Annavarapu Ramaswamy, Nedumangad Sivanandan, V V Subramanyam, M Chandrasekaran, and Seshagiri Rao — were honoured with the title Violin Vaadana Agrani ('pioneer in playing the violin').

Ramaswamy, a centenarian, travelled from Andhra, while Sivanandan, 90, came from Kerala and returned the same night to perform at another concert.

I will not bid adieu, Mr Satish Shah

The comedian best known for his role in the sitcom 'Sarabhai vs Sarabhai' died last week. Subhashini Dinesh pays him a heartfelt tribute

Social media was flooded with reels and videos of actor Satish Shah's funeral. One such emotional tribute was the team of 'Sarabhai vs Sarabhai' singing the credit song together, with a choked heart and tear-soaked eyes. There have been heart wrenching tributes to the man who brought humour, and made many of us realise the difference between humour and comedy.

Naseeruddin Shah's no-nonsense, honest piece on his colleague from FTII days touched a raw nerve as he mentioned how "Follywood falls into the temptation of stereotyping actors". (Follywood alludes to the Hindi film industry).

Naseeruddin Shah's last line, "Alvida, dear friend, we'll perform together in the big studio in the sky someday!" just made me want to be "up there" as well to witness this art in heaven.

Satish Shah was a high-energy actor, whose sharp wit and endearing smile will forever be etched in our memories. He was the warm-hearted, endearing Indravadhan Sarabhai, who never missed an opportunity to call his screen wife names like Kapti Kumari and dracula; he was the avuncular, mischievous prankster, a doting father-in-law and an annoying husband, whose famous punch line was, "Main mard hoon"! Satish Shah breathed life into his character with casual mannerisms like chewing his nails and getting graphic with his explanations. Being a film buff, I watch 'Sarabhai vs Sarabhai' whenever I need a shot of laughter. I like watching the timing and expressions of all performers (even those in the background). My acquaintances jokingly say I have a PhD in 'Sarabhai vs Sarabhai', as I know every line, the timing of every line, the expressions of the actors, the props, the furniture and colour of the rooms...the works!

Satish Shah as Indravadhan in a promo from the second season of 'Sarabhai vs Sarabhai', launched in 2017.

However, Satish Shah was not just a Sarabhai. His D'Mello in 'Jaane Bhi Do Yaroon' (Another PhD film for me!), takes the cake (the Switzerland ka cake that he refers to in the film). The 'Thoda khao, thoda feko' was such a cult one-liner of the times. His 'photo poses' for the fake magazine journalists, Naseeruddin Shah and Bhakti Barve, his corrupt commissioner act, where he tells the corrupt realtor's secretary, Neena Gupta, 'Mud Island wale guest house mein tum aana', and immediately turns to the irritating male assistant, Satish Kaushik, with a twist of voice, 'Tum mat aana'; and then his expression as the dead D'Mello...he killed it with his brilliant act!

His presence in Sai Paranjpe's frothy films, in Sooraj Barjatya's family dramas and the popular DDLJ, where he wears his thick Punjabi accent with ease, Satish Shah's presence made all the difference to the frames. He brought the 80s alive with laughter on *Doordarshan* with his various avatars in 'Yeh Jo Hai Zindagi'. It was always *thodi meethi, thodi khatti* (a little sweet and a little sour), as that title song said.

I am not bidding you any adieu, Satish Shah. I have you locked in my memories and will continue to laugh (and cry) when I watch your work, time and again.

Bengaluru easily slips into films, games and pop culture in the West. Amogh Ravindra explores how the city marks its presence with its weaponry, language and signage

HOW OUR CITY quietly travels far

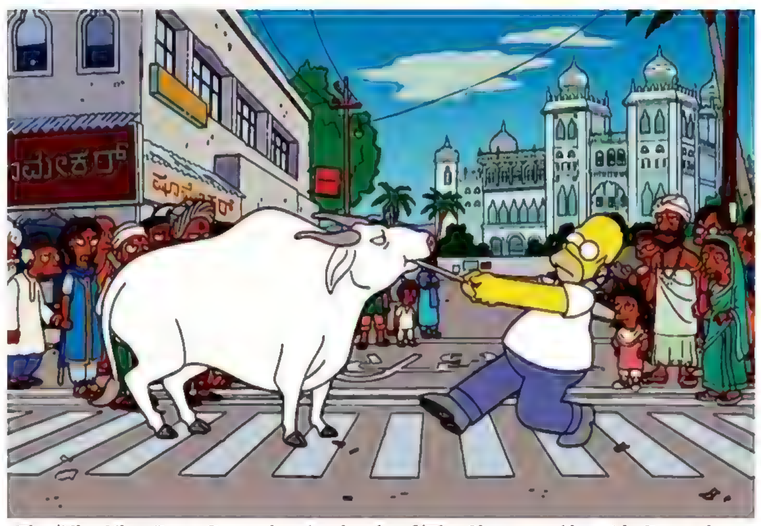
There are cities that introduce themselves with spectacle. Bengaluru has never been one of them. It has spent most of its history building quietly, solving problems, and letting the results travel farther than introductions ever could. Yet, when the world turns its attention to culture, the city keeps appearing in the frame. Not by request. Simply because it belongs there.

Long before the city wrote software, it engineered impact. Steven Spielberg's 'Saving Private Ryan' (1998) features the Bangalore torpedo, clearing a path through Omaha Beach. The tool was designed by the Madras Sappers, headquartered in Bengaluru, long before cinema discovered digital armies and invincible superheroes. The name survived, resurfacing in films and video games whenever a blockade needed clearing.

Hollywood's later encounters with the city are quieter but still noticeable. 'Mission: Impossible Ghost Protocol' (2011) may officially be set in Mumbai, yet Kannada signage appears in the frame. And when the antagonists enter a media office, the façade closely resembles the Sun Group building on Brunton Road. It is a small detail, but the city appears even when the script forgets to mention it.

Cinema may have noticed Bengaluru by coincidence, but television recognised it with clearer intent. In 'The Simpsons' episode 'Kiss Kiss, Bang Bangalore' (2006), the city appears as the universal shorthand for outsourcing, powered by familiar punchlines about call centres and code. The jokes are broad, but they land only because viewers already know exactly which city is being teased.

Streaming platforms eventually offered a more grounded portrait. 'Crime Stories: India Detectives and Indian Predator: Beast of Bangalore' (2022) focused on police stations, ordinary neighbourhoods and late-night investigations. The city that once existed as a cartoon exaggeration returned as a real place with real stakes. The neon clichés switched off, but the attention stayed on.



The 'Kiss Kiss, Bang Bangalore' episode of 'The Simpsons' is set in Bengaluru and features the city through Kannada signboards and important structures like the Jamia Masjid at K R Market (as seen in pic).

Music brought its own translation. In 2007, Iron Maiden filled Palace Grounds and left with footage that later appeared in Sam Dunn's 'Global Metal', officially putting Bengaluru on a map that rarely extends to India. The documentary did not treat the crowd as an exception. It treated them as a scene. Rap took that confidence further. On 'Chuck Taylor', Connor Price and SIRI drop 'Bengaluru lingo, counting my digits, see me yelling out bingo' into a global hook without pausing for explanation. Kannada sits comfortably between beats designed for international rotation. The lyric does not ask to be understood. It assumes it will be.

Words, however, had already laid the foundation. In 1903, Arthur Conan Doyle wrote Colonel Sebastian Moran as 'formerly of the 1st Bangalore Pioneers' in 'The Adventure of the Empty House'. It is a single detail about a villain in Victorian London, but it cements the city in a global literary memory long before hashtags pretended to measure relevance. Bengaluru slips into the canon without insisting on relevance. It is simply listed as fact and allowed to stay.

FEEDBACK
Send your ideas and comments to dhonsat @deccanherald.co.in

Games have embraced the city's name with remarkable ease. In 'Apex Legends', a character named Anita 'Bangalore' Williams carries it into battle, her precision shaped by a heritage that understood discipline long before it understood code. The Bangalore torpedo makes a return in the gaming world through 'Call of Duty', clearing digital obstacles much like it once cleared real ones. And while players traverse these virtual battlegrounds, studios like DNEG in Bengaluru work quietly on the visuals that make such worlds feel believable. Entire galaxies, skylines and universes often pass through the city long before they reach the screen.

Perhaps the most telling sign of influence is how easily it goes unnoticed. Bengaluru appears, contributes and steps away before the applause begins. It shapes what people watch, listen to and play, without insisting that anyone take note of the source. A familiar name in the credits, a passing reference in a script, a beat in a rap track, a tool in a virtual arsenal. Small details that rarely shout, but slowly accumulate.

That quiet presence has travelled far. It has moved from trenches to theatres, from detective fiction to streaming thumbnails, from concert stages to code screens. It has shown up wherever culture moves next, sometimes surprisingly and sometimes as if it had been there all along. The city may move quietly, but its influence does not, even if the traffic often steals the noise.

In 'Saving Private Ryan', Captain Miller, played by Tom Hanks, says 'Bangalores, bring up the Bangalores!' ordering his men to bring the Bangalore torpedoes, which was designed by the Madras Sappers.

MOVIE REVIEWS

Re-edited 'Baahubali' weak on rhythm

SAMVARTHA SAHIL

A recut version of the two-part 'Baahubali' (2015 and 2017) is now showing as a single film.

★★☆☆☆

Baahubali: The Epic
Telugu (Theatres)
Director: S S Rajamouli
Cast: Prabhas, Rana Daggubati, Anushka Shetty, Sathyaraj, Ramyakrishnan. Nasser, Tamannaah Bhatia

It is a great disservice to the audience to produce a below par remake of a successful film, as in the case of 'Ek Choti Si Prem Kahaani' which was a remake of 'A Short Film About Love'. Feeling compelled to make a sequel / prequel to ride on the success of the first instalment is also an oft repeated disservice. Now, a new format has emerged - the makers of the Baahubali franchise have released 'Baahubali — The Epic', an abridged version of the two-part film.

'The Epic' feels like hopping on milestones instead of walking on the road. Since it touches on the main plot-points, the story gets communicated as information, but it does not stir the gut; something that the two-part film did. What gets compromised because of this is the rhythmic experience, and hence the film's emotional journey.

In the abridged version, Kattappa appears conflicted between duty and affection, which is a very simplistic portrayal of a character who in the two-part film is caught between loyalty to the throne and commitment to the kingdom's welfare. Even the central conflict of the film comes across as a mere battle between two individuals for power. This shows how 'The Epic' has lost its nuances, complexities and depth!

While the two-part film was a narrative of the characters and the world, 'The Epic' turns out to be a PR video of Baahubali, the King; dedicated to glorifying a character's role as the king. The world becomes merely a stage. The re-edited background score is not seamless, it is patchy. It spoils one's memories of the two-part film.

The abridged version holds on to some theatricalities, sentimentality, spectacle and nostalgia. However, it misses the drama which was the strength of the two-parts, and the reason why the audience connected with them.

A stylish gamble that falls short

RASHMI VASUDEVA

★★☆☆☆

Ballad of a Small Player
English (Netflix)
Director: Edward Berger
Cast: Colin Farrell, Fala Chen, Tilda Swinton

Colin Farrell and Fala Chen play Lord Doyle and Dao Ming.

Something is arresting about the glitter and glamour of Macau. Perhaps it is the vacuousness of it all. 'Ballad of a Small Player' unfolds just like the city it is set in — it is hypnotic but rather hollow.

Directed by Edward Berger ('All Quiet on the Western Front', 2022), this genre-fluid casino drama is adapted from Lawrence Osborne's novel. It is a moody, unsettling take on greed, loneliness, luck and love.

Colin Farrell, who plays the dodgy Lord Doyle, a British gambler who is down to his last dime, carries the entire film on his drooping shoulders. His performance makes you hold on, even if the film often feels like a rattling, speeding bus that's going nowhere. Farrell is charming and ruinous. The camera lovingly traces his sweaty desperation even as he stuffs himself with caviar and lobster, when deep in debt and bereft of ideas. But his mysterious 'affair' with Dao Ming (Fala Chen) does not quite register; it just leaves you more muddled than before.

The entire movie is structured like a fever dream... the camera drunkenly zooms up and down snazzy skyscrapers, and spans a city celebrating a week for ghosts with fireworks and effigies aflame. But it seems Berger was so intent on the atmospherics that he neglected the movie's emotional heft and plot. At best, this is a tale that deliberately self-destructs to capture the melancholy and gloom of self-destruction. But the director, just like Lord Doyle, has overplayed his hand, alas.

Commendable action thriller about betting

JAGADISH ANGADI

Darling Krishna plays a young man with a cricket dream.

★★★☆☆

Brat
Kannada (Theatres)
Director: Shashank Taalya
Cast: Darling Krishna, Achyut Kumar, Ramesh Indira, Dragon Manju

Director Shashank's 'Brat' follows Krishna (Darling Krishna), a young man from a middle-class family. With financial struggles at every turn, his dreams take a backseat — thanks to his father, Mahadevaiah (Achyuth Kumar), a head constable, faithful to his job. Krishna has cricket in his blood, but he ends up doing odd jobs for a living. His dreams of a career in cricket slowly fade away.

Krishna's life takes a turn when he accidentally bumps into a bookie. He uses his cricket skills in the betting world and makes money. The bookie soon cheats Krishna. The situation takes a deadly turn when one of his friends, who had lent money to him, ends life, unable to cope with the pressure.

The director ramps up the tension, weaving a web of twists and turns to keep the audience engaged, as Krishna navigates the dark aftermath of his friend's tragic death. With intense scenes, the movie transforms into a gripping thriller post interval.

The film explores the blurred lines between good and bad, complexities of father-son relationships, and the complicated bond we share with money. It drives home the point that while money is not everything, it is hard to achieve anything without it.

The background score complements the mood of each scene. The action sequences are well-choreographed and the comedy is well-written.

Darling Krishna steals the show with his stellar performance. While Achyuth Kumar delivers a commendable performance, Dragon Manju and Ramesh Indira are convincing.

Recommended OTT releases: 'Humans in the Loop' (Hindi, Netflix), 'Maarigallu' (Kannada, Zee5), 'Kantara Chapter 1' (Kannada, Amazon Prime Video), 'Lokah Chapter 1 — Chandra' (Malayalam, JioHotstar) and 'Idli Kadai' (Tamil, Netflix).

Simple Suni talks to Pranati A S about his upcoming period drama and his shift to larger-than-life stories

Director of intimate hits: Audience tastes have changed

Simple Suni

Simple Suni, best known for his 2013 directorial, 'Simple Agi Ondh Love Story', is all set to release his latest, 'Gatha Vaibhava'. It will release on November 21.

Primarily a love story, it is a period drama spanning three distinct eras — contemporary, historical, and mythological. "It's on the same lines as 'Simple Agi Ondh Love Story' — the hero and heroine meet and each has a flashback revealing their past. But in 'Gatha Vaibhava', their past dates back to their previous births," Suni tells *Showtime*.

One of their earlier lives is set during the time of Samudhra Manthana (Ocean Churning), a chapter from the Vishnu Purana in Hindu mythology. The second takes place in Portugal during Vasco da Gama's explorations of India, while the third unfolds in the early 20th century, reveals Suni.

"Most films dealing with the concept of rebirth stay within a 30-to-40-year timeline. I wanted to go further and explore Hindu mythology. That's when I came across an interesting episode in the Samudhra Manthana chapter. At the same time, pirates are not explored in Kannada cinema. So I have explored that with a hint of comedy," he says.

Why has he shifted from rom-coms to period and supernatural dramas? Suni explains that audience tastes have evolved. After 'KGF' and 'Kantara', Suni says, the audiences are looking for larger-than-life movies. After the advent of OTT, audiences want to come to theatres only if a film is mounted on a grand scale. Recalling his 2024 rom-com 'Ondu Sarala Prema Kathe', starring Vinay Rajkumar, he adds, "It was a slice-of-life romantic comedy. It was received better on OTT than in theatres."

At the same time, Suni says his next two projects, 'Moda Kavida Vathavarana' and 'Devaru Ruju Madidanu', will be simple, realistic dramas.

Reflecting on other changes in the industry, he notes that back in the day, producers were keen on having an action sequence or an item song in a film. "Now they want songs that can go viral as reels. We usually make songs based on the film's narrative, but with reels becoming a priority, we have to step out of the art form," he says.

He also laments that despite many talented young Kannada singers, most audio labels prefer popular singers from Bollywood such as Armaan Malik, Sonu Nigam, and Shreya Ghoshal.

Alexander Bublik

Bublik to face Auger-Aliassime in last-4 clash

PARIS, AFP: Alexander Bublik battled back to defeat Alex de Minaur on Friday and reach the first Masters 1000 semifinal of his career in Paris.

The Kazakh, enjoying his best-ever year, edged a dramatic contest 6-7 (5/7), 6-4, 7-5 to set up a last-four meeting with Felix Auger-Aliassime, who earlier saw off Valentin Vacherot in his quarterfinal.

Bublik is still in the race to qualify for next month's ATP Finals in Turin, competing for the eighth and last berth with Lorenzo Musetti, Auger-Aliassime and Daniil Medvedev.

Earlier, Auger-Aliassime cruised past Vacherot to keep his hopes of qualifying for the Finals alive.

The Canadian had come from a set down in all three of his previous matches at the La Defense Arena but eased past surprise Shanghai Masters champion Vacherot 6-2, 6-2.

Auger-Aliassime holds a 3-2 winning head-to-head record over Bublik.

Sinner into last-8

Jannik Sinner eased past Francisco Cerundolo 7-5, 6-1 here on Thursday to set up a quarterfinal clash with Ben Shelton, while reigning champion Alexander Zverev earned a straight-sets win over Alejandro Davidovich Fokina in the third round.

CRICKET FOUR-DAY GAME

Reckless India A hand lead

Young Mhatre impresses before SA A gain control

SIDNEY KIRAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

There's a fine line between confidence and recklessness. India A learnt that lesson the hard way, their self-destruction allowing a disciplined South Africa A to stay ahead at the midway stage of the opening four-day game here on Friday.

Batter after batter, barring the talented young opener Ayush Mhatre (65, 76b), were guilty of gifting their wickets on a platter, especially to seasoned off-spinner Prenelan Subrayen (5/61), as India A collapsed to 234 all out in 58 overs at BCCI's Centre of Excellence after having bowled out the visitors for 309 in the morning.

A fired-up South Africa, who were relentless all through an unusually hot late October day with accurate wicket-to-wicket bowling, then batted with responsibility to take the stumps on the second day at 30/0, an overall lead of 105 runs that has left the hosts with a lot of fighting to do over the weekend.

The way 18-year-old sensation Mhatre batted in a rampaging first session, single-handedly destroying South Africa with audacious shot-making that betrayed his age, the post-lunch implosion from India A didn't seem imminent.

Mumbai's Mhatre, who has been making waves on the domestic circuit since his debut last season with his aggressive batting, once again unleashed mayhem on the South African bowlers. Picking the lengths quickly, Mhatre never took his foot off the accelerator as he dispatched balls to boundary with utter disdain.

The best part about his innings was the shot selection; he didn't go bang-bang every ball but precisely knew which ones could be hammered to the fences. For a kid of his age to have that intelligence showed why many pundits rate him as the next big thing along with 14-year-old Vaibhav Suryavanshi.

His comfort and confidence level was in complete contrast to Sai Sudharsan, India's new No. 3, who struggled to time the ball for most of his frustrating 94-ball 32-run stay.

It was like Mhatre was driving a swanky car on a perfectly tarred road while Sudharsan was behind the wheels of a jalopy on a pothole-ridden stretch.

Despite the contrasting drives, India A motored along nicely before the spokes came off the moment Mhatre perished a little after lunch while trying to flick Subrayen. Probably taking the 32-year-old off-spinner lightly, both Devdutt Padikkal and Rajat Patidar played rank bad shots in an attempt to boss the South African and perished without making significant contributions. While Padikkal was caught at mid-off in attempting to step out and play an inside-out shot, Patidar went for an expansive drive and was bowled through the gates.

Skipper Rishabh Pant, playing his first match since fracturing his right foot during the Manchester Test against England in late July, too didn't help the team's cause with just 17.

The need of the hour for the stumper was to spend time in the middle, but from the moment he walked to the crease, he just wanted to play the big shots.

He stepped down the first ball he faced and missed it completely. He did smack a couple of boundaries but always looked in a mood to take a risk.

India A's Ayush Mhatre cuts one to the fence during his knock of 65 against South Africa A on the second day of their four-day match at the BCCI's CoE in Bengaluru. DH PHOTO /KRISHNAKUMAR PS

SCOREBOARD

SOUTH AFRICA A (I Innings, O/n: 299/9): Jordan Hermann lbw Kotian 71 (141b, 8x4), Lesego Senokwane c Mhatre b Kamboj 9 (7b), Zubayr Hamza c Pant b Brar 66 (109b, 9x4, 1x6), Marques Ackerman c Suthar b Kotian 18 (22b, 2x4), Rubin Hermann b Kotian 54 (87b, 6x4), Rivaldo Moonswamy c Badoni b Suthar 5 (18b, 1x4), Tiaan van Vuuren c Padikkal b Suthar 46 (75b, 5x4, 1x6), Prenelan Subrayen b Kotian 1 (9b), Tshepo Moreki (not out) 8 (56b), Lutho Sipamla lbw Khaleel 6 (16b), Okuhle Cele b Brar 6 (18b, 1x4). Extras (B-12, LB-4, W-2, NB-10) 28. **TOTAL (all out, 91.2 overs) 309.**

Fall of wickets: 1-6 (Senokwane), 2-136 (Hamza), 3-170 (Ackerman), 4-187 (J Hermann), 5-197 (Moonswamy), 6-269 (R Hermann), 7-277 (Subrayen), 8-289 (Vuuren), 9-299 (Sipamla).

Bowling: Khaleel Ahmed 15-1-60-1, Anshul Kamboj 16-3-40-1, Gurnoor Brar 15.2-2-45-2, Manav Suthar 20-4-62-2, Tanush Kotian 23–5-83-4, Ayush Badoni 2-0-3-0.

INDIA (I Innings): Sai Sudharsan c Moonsamy b Moreki 32 (94b, 3x4), Ayush Mhatre c Jordan b Subrayen 65 (76b, 10x4), Devdutt Padikkal c Cele b Subrayen 6 (22b, 1x4), Devdutt Padikkal 6 (22b, 1x4), Rajat Patidar b Subrayen 19 (35b, 1x4), Rishabh Pant c Hamza b Cele 17 (20b, 2x4), Badoni c Rubin b Sipamla 38 (47b, 5x4), Kotian c Senokwane b Subrayen 13 (26b, 2x4), Manav Suthar c Moonsamy b Van Vuuren 4 (6b, 1x4), Anshul Kamboj c Cele b Sipamla 5 (10b, 1x4), Gurnoor Brar (not out) 1 (9b), Khaleel Ahmed 4 (6b). Extras (NB-3, W-8, B-13, LB-6) 30. **TOTAL (all out, 58 overs) 234.**

Fall of wickets: 1-90 (Mhatre), 2-104 (Padikkal), 3-124 (Sudharsan), 4-157 (Pant), 5-159 (Patidar), 6-183 (Kotian), 7-188 (Suthar), 8-224 (Kamboj), 9-229 (Badoni).

Bowling: Tshepo Moreki 10-0-42-1, Okuhle Cele 9-1-42-1, Tiaan van Vuuren 7-0-35-1, Lutho Sipamla 10-2-35-2, Prenelan Subrayen 22-2-61-5.

SOUTH AFRICA A (II Innings): Jordan Hermann (batting) 12 (39b, 1x4), Lesego Senokwane (batting) 9 (34b). Extras (B-6, LB-2, NB-1) 9. **TOTAL (for no loss, 12 overs) 30.**

Bowling: Khaleel Ahmed 4-0-11-0, Anshul Kamboj 3-0-5-0, Manav Suthar 1-0-4-0, Gurnoor Brar 2-2-0-0, Tanush Kotian 2-1-2-0.

Karnataka chase consistency

With just 4 points, Agarwal and Co eye win over Kerala

VIGNESH BHARADWAJ
BENGALURU, DHNS

Mayank Agarwal

A little over two weeks ago, Kerala produced a quality spell of fast bowling to have Maharashtra staring at embarrassment at 18 for 5 in 10.4 overs on a green top at the Greenfield Stadium in Thiruvananthapuram.

However, a mere 9.3 kilometres away is the KCA Stadium in Mangalapuram–where Karnataka will face Kerala in their third Elite Group B fixture–the wicket is expected to be slightly on the slower side, with some grass likely to be stripped off before the game.

The conditions are expected to influence both Karnataka (four points) and Kerala (two points), who are looking for outright wins, to have their spinners play bigger role.

For a team that has flirted with inconsistency over the last few seasons, the upcoming game offers Karnataka a chance to build on the three points they got in Shivamogga in their quest for a top-two finish in a tricky group.

The visitors will seek a better batting display and the team management will want to see some runs, especially against Nikin Jose and Shrijith KL's names.

Nikin has scored just 49 runs in three innings at an average of 16.33, while Shrijith has managed 36 runs, averaging 12.

The two batters have struggled to put up a good show in a line-up where all other top-five batters (Mayank Agarwal, Devdutt Padikkal, Karun Nair, Smaran R) have notched up at least one fifty.

With Aneesh KV breathing down Nikin's neck from the bench, there could be a straight swap at the top to partner Agarwal, if the team thinks it is time.

On the bowling front, Karnataka will be delighted with Vidwath Kaverappa's impressive performance in the last round, coming back after a long break, along with Vyshak Vijaykumar's return from injury.

The visitors will also be happy with Abhilash Shetty's (3/74) returns as he proved to be quite effective with the new ball.

In Vidwath, Vyshak, Abhilash and Yashovardhan Parantap, Karnataka have a good blend of youth and experience in the seam bowling department.

However, if they feel the surface is dry underneath, off-spinner Mohsin Khan should take Yashovardhan's place, adding variety to the spin-bowling arsenal.

Karnataka (probable XI): Mayank Agarwal (c), Nikin Jose/Aneesh KV, Shrijith KL (wk), Karun Nair, Smaran R, Abhinav Manohar, Shreyas Gopal, Vyshak Vijayakumar, Abhilash Shetty, Yahsovardhan Parantap/Mohsin Khan, Vidwath Kaverappa.

Kerala squad: Mohammed Azharuddeen (c), B. Aparajith, Rohan Kunnummal, Vathsal Govind, Akshay Chandran, Sachin Baby, Salman Nizar, Ankit Sharma, MD Nidheesh, NP Basil, Eden Apple Tom, Ahammed Imran, Shoun Roger, Abhishek Nair.

Other Group B fixtures: Maharashtra vs Saurashtra (Nasik); Punjab vs Goa (New Chandigarh); Madhya Pradesh vs Chandigarh (Indore).

Fourth Mini Karnataka Games from November 2

BENGALURU, DHNS: Over 5,000 participants in the under-14 age category from various districts of the state are set to assemble in the city for the fourth edition of the Mini Karnataka Games to be held from November 2 to 9.

The week-long multi-sport event will feature 27 disciplines spread across various venues in Bengaluru.

Jointly organised by the Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports (DYES), Government of Karnataka, the Sports Authority of Karnataka (SAK) and the Karnataka Olympic Association (KOA), the event will have around 400 technical staff who will be responsible for conducting the competitions in a fair manner.

The opening ceremony will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Siddharamaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on November 2 at 5 pm at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium and the closing ceremony is scheduled to be held at the same venue on November 9.

Disciplines: Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Canoeing & Kayaking, Cycling, Fencing, Football, Golf, Gymnastics, Handball, Hockey, Judo, Kabaddi, Kho-kho, Lawn Tennis, Netball, Riding, Rifle Shooting, Swimming, Table Tennis, Taekwondo, Volleyball, Weightlifting, Wrestling, and Wushu.

Dabang Delhi win PKL 12

NEW DELHI, PTI

Dabang Delhi were on Friday crowned champions of the Pro Kabaddi League Season 12 after their thrilling 31-28 victory over Puneri Paltan in front of a packed home crowd here.

This was their second PKL title, having previously been crowned champions in Season 8, when current head coach Joginder Narwal was their captain.

In doing so, Dabang Delhi became the first home team since U Mumba in Season 2 to lift the trophy. Meanwhile, Fazel Atrachali also became the most successful foreign player in the history of the PKL.

Neeraj Narwal and Ajinkya Pawar led the raiding unit with eight and six points respectively. For Puneri Paltan, Aditya Shinde registered a Super 10 and Abinesh Nadarajan scored four tackle points, that went down in vain.

As has been the case for most of the season, Aslam Inamdar and Ashu Malik opened the account of their respective teams in the grand finale.

Neeraj Narwal then took the onus for Dabang Delhi, bagging a two-point raid and a tackle to give his side a four-point lead in the initial exchanges.

Puneri Paltan did not succumb to the early pressure, as Gaurav Khatri secured a couple of Super Tackles to make it a one-point game. With the tempo slowing down slightly as both teams resorted to the Do-Or-Die strategy, Ajinkya Pawar ensured that Dabang Delhi held a two-point lead after an engaging first quarter.

Abinesh Nadarajan registered a third Super Tackle for Puneri Paltan, keeping it a one-point game, but Dabang Delhi's Ajinkya Pawar inflicted the first ALL OUT of the game with close to five minutes to go in the first half.

Dabang Delhi scored a thrilling 31-28 victory over Puneri Paltan in the final to be crowned champions of Pro Kabaddi League season 12 on Friday.

East Bengal qualify for Super Cup semifinals

MARGAO (GOA), PTI: East Bengal FC produced a disciplined defensive performance to hold arch-rivals Mohun Bagan Super Giant to a goal-less draw and qualify for the semifinals of the Super Cup from Group A here on Friday.

Both sides finished on six points, but Oscar Bruzon's men advanced to the last-four stage owing to their superior goal difference, aided by the 4-0 thrashing of Chennaiyin FC on Tuesday.

In a match short on clear chances, East Bengal's backline, led by Anwar Ali, stayed compact and organised throughout, frustrating the ISL champions who needed a win to qualify for the semifinals.

The best opening of the first half came in the 24th minute when Bipin Singh's header from a Miguel Figueira cross struck the post and came back into play.

Ngairangbam stars for Kickstart FC

BENGALURU, DHNS

Ngairangbam Rakesh Singh scored a hat-trick as Kickstart FC posted a thumping 7-0 victory to go level on points with league leaders FC Bengaluru United (35 points) in the KSFA Super Division League Championship at the Bangalore Football Stadium here on Friday.

However, Kickstart FC stay second on the table as FCBU enjoy better goal difference.

BC FC's Lunjangam Kipgen (right) and MFAR Student Union FC's Ameen Khazeer battle for possession at BFS.
DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

Monish G opened the scoring in the 3rd minute, while a Silver Rocks' own goal doubled their tally in the fourth. Ngairangbam struck a 36th-minute penalty to add a third and Premish T's 56th-minute goal made it 4-0.

In the day's other games, Sporting Club Bengaluru played out a 1-1 draw over FC Real Bengaluru, while Bangalore City FC edged Students Union FC 1-0.

Results: Kickstart FC: 7 (Monish G 3rd, Silver Rocks 4th own goal, Ngairangbam Rakesh Singh 36th pen, 59th, 75th, Premish T 56th, Amoghavarsha G 75th) bt Bharat Bengaluru FC: 0; Sporting Club Bengaluru: 1 (Nishanth S) drew with FC Real Bengaluru: 1 (Sahil Suresh Lamani 37th); Bangalore City FC: 1 (Ngamring Kamphinamei 3rd) bt MFAR Students Union FC: 0.

Atharv, Rohith power Combined City XI to big win

BENGALURU, DHNS: Atharv S Deshpande's fifer and an unbeaten half-century, ably aided by Rohith M's ton, saw Combined City XI notch up an innings and 263-run victory over Tumkur Zone in the KSCA Under-16 Inter-Zonal tournament here.

Brief scores: Tumkur Zone: 91 all out in 46.4 overs (Abhishek G Yadava 30; Atharv S Deshpande 5-23) and 94 all out in 40 overs (Shivaraj R 39; Manish V Patil 2-25, Suraj A 2-18, Paarth Madan 4-18) lt to Combined City XI: 448/6 in 89.5 overs (Rohith M 159, Rohan S Reddy 63, Mohmmed Raheel A 93, Aadyot Pandey 30, Atharv S Deshpande 51 n.o.; Veeresh KC 2-69). **Combined City XI: 6 points; Tumkur Zone: -1 point.**

Bangalore City XI: 139 all out in 46.4 overs (Rithvik Kulasekar 67, Nithin R 49; Gagan DR 2-26, Bhargav D 2-15, Usman Shareef 2-26, Ayman Raheesh 3-6) and 234 all out in 64.4 overs (Niranjan Ashok 25, Arush Jain 122, Nithin R 37; Karan Gowda S D 2-27) drew with Shivamogga Zone: 151 all out in 60 overs (Rohan A 31, Guruprasad TG 30; Vedant Venkat Athreya 5-38, Krish Rao 4-35). **Shivamogga Zone: 3; Bangalore City XI: 1.**

Vice President's XI: 233 all out in 74.5 overs (Syaamantak Anirudh 107, Aakash Suresh 33; Ranjan Pai 6-41, Ishan S Kotekar 3-39) and 106/2 in 28 overs (Amogh Hegde 31 n.o., Sanjit Sathish 50 n.o.) drew with Mangalore Zone: 122 all out in 72.1 overs (Mayank Sharma 30, Jnyan C Karkera 49; Sampath Kumar M 2-26, Uday Charan R 3-22, Aarav Bajaj 2-16). **Vice President's XI: 3; Mangalore Zone: 1.**

Mysore Zone: 223 all out in 79.4 overs (Poornapragna M Raam 47, Dheemanth KM 42, Ayush R 28, Jateen R Dinesh 55; Om Agarwala 6-32) and 78/3 in 16 overs (Poornapragna M Raam 27 n.o., Chavanth R Gowda 27; Chethan C 2-26) drew with Secretary's XI: 184 all out in 81 overs (Arnav Anil 55, Om Agarwalla 27; Samarth M Kulakarni 3-38, Preetham HG 6-35). **Mysore Zone: 3; Secretary's XI: 1.**

President's XI: 254/5 in 90 overs (Rachit Das 75, Ashrith S Reddy 85, Aaryansinh Chavda 39 n.o.; Ruhaan Shaikh 2-16) drew with Dharwad Zone: 68 all out in 37.1 overs (Abhinav Sharma 30; Eshan Manigandan 3-10, Purab Soni 2-26, Monish P 2-10) and 128/5 in 49 overs (Joy James Sullad 60, Ruhaan Shaikh 30; Eshan Manigandan 3-20). **President's XI: 3; Dharwad Zone: 1.**

Raichur Zone: 102 all out in 37.5 overs (Narasimha 5-19, Gaurav Raj H 2-22) and 98 all out in 36.5 overs (Ayan Ali Zaheed 25; Shiven Gupta 3-31, Rafa Poonacha Ballachanda 3-4, Arnav Ravindra Dere 2-8) lt to Bangalore Zone: 170 all out in 61 overs (Harshith Raja 36, Arnav Ravindra Dere 26, Narasimha 33; Mohammed Shamsheer 3-60, Vishal Reddy SV 4-31) and 32/2 in 4 overs (Kartik Rathod 2-4). **Bangalore Zone: 6; Raichur Zone: -1.**

Indians look to stamp authority at the global stage

World champion Gukesh leads home challenge

MANISHA MOHITE

The first round of the 206-player FIDE World Cup to be played in Goa will start with 156 players in fray on Saturday. The firm favourites or the fancied chess players or simply put, the top 50 seeded players, will begin their campaign from the second round to be played from November 4.

This prestigious long and gruelling event will stretch across eight rounds, spanning four weeks and will test a player's perseverance and physical stamina.

Spearheading India's campaign is their reigning World Champion Dommaraju Gukesh and all the other 'Golden boys' of Indian chess who brought home the Olympiad Team Gold last year – Arjun Erigaisi, R Praggnanandhaa, Vidit Gujrathi and Pentala Harikrishna. If it can be recalled, Pragg had reached the finals of the last edition of the World Cup where he had lost to Magnus Carlsen.

It was way back in 2002 that India hosted the World cup for the first time, albeit in a different format in Hyderabad where Viswanathan Anand, the five-time World Champion, successfully defended his World Cup title, won a couple of years before in China with an emphatic show. Incidentally, all the three top contenders for this event – Gukesh, Arjun and Pragg – weren't even born then! This is a testimony to India's emergence as a powerhouse of chess talent in the last few years. India then boasted Grandmasters in single digits and now boasts 90 of them.

Aravindh Chithambaram, Nihal Sarin, Karthikeyan Murali are other top Indian players capable of defying the odds.

Divya Deshmukh is the only female face in the event after receiving a wild card entry, courtesy her triumph in the Women's World Cup. The 19-year-old will feature in the first round against Greek GM Stamatis Kourkoulos Arditis and a victory here will have her pitted against compatriot Sarin in the second round.

A prize purse of $2000000 and three qualifying spots for the next year's Candidates (eight-player double round-robin event where the winner will then challenge the world champion Gukesh for the World title). This event will follow a single-elimination knock-out format in which each round will have two classical games followed by a tiebreaker if required. The tie-breaker will consist of two rapid games while the single-bidding Armageddon will be employed if no result is achieved at the end of the rapid rounds.

The strength of the event has been diluted without the presence of reigning champion Magnus Carlsen, the highest ever rated player on the planet along with Hikaru Nakamura and Fabiano Caruana of the USA, the top three players in the World.

Every player losing in the first round will earn $3500 while the winner will take home a prize purse of $120,000.

GM Anish Giri fresh from his triumph in the Grand Swiss is another top contender for the title but he and GM Matthias Bluebaum of Germany have already qualified for the Candidates event through the FIDE Swiss Tour and if any of them or Gukesh finish in the top-three, the Candidates spot will be awarded to the next player in the standings.

Amongst the 30 teenagers, the cynosure of all eyes will be wild-card entrant, 12-year-old International Mater (IM) Oro Faustino of Argentina, who already has one GM norm in his kitty. The 65-year-old GM Igor Efimov, playing for Monaco, will be the oldest participant at 65 years.

Indians at the World Cup: D Gukesh, Praggnanandhaa R, Arjun Erigaisi, Vidit Gujrathi, Aravindh Chithambaram, Nihal Sarin, Harikrishna Pentala, Raunak Sadhwani, Leon Luke Mendonca, Iniyan Pa, Pranav V, Raja Rithvik R, Narayanan SL, Pranesh M, Harshavardhan GB, Karthikeyan Murali, Idani Pouya, Karthik Venkataraman, Surya Shekhar Ganguly, Neelash Saha, Diptayan Ghosh, Aromyak Ghosh, Himal Gusain, Lalit Babu MR.

R Praggnanandhaa

D Gukesh

WC SCHEDULE

- Nov 1-16: (Round 1 to Round 5)
- Nov 17-19: Quarterfinals
- Nov 21-23: Semifinals
- Nov 24-26: Finals
- (all rounds start at 3 pm IST)

Trophy named after Anand

The new trophy of the FIDE World Chess Cup held in Goa was christened as the Viswanathan Anand trophy, in honour of the five-time world champion, reports PTI from Panjim.

Karnataka go down to MP

BENGALURU, DHNS: A disciplined bowling effort from Priyanka (3/18), Vaishnavi Sharma (3/10) and Anushka Sharma (2/15) saw Madhya Pradesh register a dominating seven-wicket win over Karnataka in their final Super League match of the Senior Women's T20 Trophy at the Lalbhai Contractor Stadium in Surat.

Karnataka were already out of the tournament following a loss and washout.

Brief scores: Karnataka: 82/9 in 12 overs (Shubha Satheesh 39; Priyanka 3-18, Anushka Sharma 2-15, Vaishnavi Sharma 3-10) lt to Madhya Pradesh: 89/3 in 10 overs (Aayushi Shukla 37, Soumya Tiwari 44 n.o.). Start of the match was delayed due to wet outfield, later was reduced to 12 overs per side).

IN BRIEF

DYES B trounce DYES, Ballari

▸ As many as five players scored a brace each for Department of Youth Empowerment & Sports B in their thumping 13-0 win over Department of Youth Empowerment & Sports, Ballari at the 9th Hockey Karnataka League Championship on Friday, reports DHNS.

Results: DYES B: 13 (Nachappa IR 33rd, 35th, Harsha HR 7th, 48th, Lithu R 17th, Vachan HA 29th, 42nd, Shrinivas Talwar 30th, Gaurav Ganapathy KR 40th, 44th, Mourya Thimmaiah CC 51st, 52nd, Ujwal Appachu PS 57th) bt DYES, Ballari: 0; Army Boys Sports Company, MEG: 4 (Samir 38th, Arjun 40th, 41st, Prasant Aind 44th) bt Postal: 3 (Chethan Chinnappa 46th, Rajant 53rd, Akarsh Biddappa CG 55th).

Utpluta on November 1

▸ Utpluta, an annual Rotary Club of Bangalore swimming competition will be held today at the Basavanagudi Aquatic Center today, reports DHNS.

The main event starts at 7:00 am. A special event has also been organised for the physically challenged children at 12:00 pm.

K'taka ease to victory

▸ Economical spells from Karnika Karthick (3/5), Veda Varshini (3/13) and Vandita K Rao (2/13) helped Karnataka ease past Assam to register a nine-wicket victory in the BCCI Under-19 Women's T20 Trophy at the VCA Stadium in Nagpur, reports DHNS

Brief scores: Assam: 65 all out in 17.3 overs (Riya Poudel 25 n.o.; Karnika Karthick 3-5, Veda Varshini 3-13, Vandita K Rao 2-13) lt to Karnataka: 66/1 in 5.1 overs (Liyanka Shetty 35 n.o.) by 9 wickets.

Karnataka beat Assam

▸ Shaurya Veer Verma and Gurumayum Prohit Kumar scored two goals each to power Karnataka to a dominating 6-0 win over Assam in their third group game at the Sub-Junior Boys National Football Championship in Amritsar, Punjab, reports DHNS.

Results: Karnataka: 6 (Shaurya Veer Verma 47th, 61st, Gurumayum Prohit Kumar 60th, 70th, Jordon Paul Mobin 63rd, Ved Krishnama 67th) bt Assam: 0.

Imperial Blue for Rajyotsava Trophy

BENGALURU SELECTIONS

Imperial Blue, from the stables of Irfan Ghatala and ridden by N Arvind Kumar, will garner the maximum support in the small field of five runners in the fray for the Rajyotsava Trophy, the feature event on the opening day of the Bengaluru winter races to be run over a distance of seven furlongs on Saturday. The first race starts at 2 pm.

1. Inauguration Plate - 1400M: Feeling Good 1, Southernaristocrat 2, Lex Luthor 3.
2. Kentucky Plate - 1200M: Solara 1, Cashable 2, Zephyrine 3.
3. Kudremukh Plate - 1400M: Final Call 1, Sunshine 2, Larissa 3.
4. Belagaum Plate - 1200M: Excellent Lass 1, Jersey King 2, Regal Reality 3.
5. Rajyotsava Trophy - 1400M: Imperial Blue 1, Galahad 2, Power Of Beauty 3.
6. Jayant M Shah Memorial Trophy - 1400M: Flight Of Fancy 1, Rieko 2, Elysium 3.
7. Dudhsagar Falls Plate - 1200M: Annabelle 1, Sapporo 2, Art Of Romance 3.
Day's best: Excellent Lass. **Jackpot:** 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. **I treble:** 2, 3, 4. **II treble:** 5, 6, 7.

◆ ON TV ◆

CRICKET

1st 4-day game: India A vs South Africa A **(day 3, 9:30 am). LIVE** on **JioHotstar.**

3rd ODI: New Zealand vs England **(6:30 am). LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network, SonyLiv.**

Ranji Trophy: Tamil Nadu vs Vidarbha, Punjab vs Goa, Himachal Pradesh vs Hyderabad **(day 1, 9:30 pm). LIVE** on **JioHotstar.**

FOOTBALL

EPL: Crystal Palace vs Brentford, Nottingham Forest vs Man United, Burnley vs Arsenal, Brighton vs Leeds United, Fulham vs Wolves **(all 8:30 pm)**, Tottenham vs Chelsea **(11 pm)**, Liverpool vs Aston Villa **(1:30 am, Sunday). LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

TENNIS

Paris Masters: Semifinals **(7 pm). LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network, Sony LIV.**

CRICKET WOMEN'S ODI WORLD CUP

From three zeros to hero's innings
Jemimah's roller coaster ride

G KRISHNAN
NAVI MUMBAI

Jemimah Rodrigues has been the life of the Indian dressing room. Wherever she is, be it with friends, teammates, family, at airports or in hotels, she brings a positive energy and enlivens the atmosphere.

Always smiling, the 25-year-old Mumbai right-handed batter could come across as a happy-go-lucky-girl. But, deep inside, she is a fierce competitor, determined to succeed and win cricket matches for India.

Sitting drained after an energy-sapping unbeaten 127 on Thursday night, a knock that eliminated defending champions Australia and took India to the ICC Cricket World Cup final against South Africa, Rodrigues was anything but cheerful. She was so emotional that she tried hard to control her tears but gave in while addressing the media.

Asked if her knock was a fitting reply to the Aussies, who had the previous highest successful chase in the league stage against India who eventually obliterated it, Rodrigues said: "Whichever team came to the semifinals, it would have been the same reply from our team because we don't want to play the team, we play the moment and win that moment."

Towards the latter half of her knock, Rodrigues was often squatting between overs, and between deliveries, catching a breath or two. "I was praying. I was talking to myself because actually I'd lost a lot of energy. Since I was tired, I was thinking if I should go for the shots now or take it deep. That was one learning for me also to just stay there towards the end. I was talking to God because when I cannot carry myself, he always carries me."

Indeed, Rodrigues's prayers were answered as she rode on three 'lives' during her otherwise career-best knock for India across formats. Rival captain Alyssa Healy dropped her twice, on 60 and 82 while Kim Garth grassed her on 106.

Rodrigues, who went in at No. 3 in the second over and batted for three hours and 20 minutes, believed India were always going to chase the target of 339. "I began my maiden World Cup campaign with a first-ball duck and had two noughts in her first three innings, it has been a roller-coaster ride.

A teary-eyed Rodrigues said: "I was going through a lot of anxiety at the start of the tournament. I used to call my mom and cry. Almost every day I've cried in front of Arundhati (Reddy). There was Smriti (Mandhana), who knew they were 30 runs short and DY Patil Stadium is such a pitch. I've been a part of three chases against Australia where we were going at a run a ball and lost from there. Those moments taught me a lot and I wanted to be there to finish it off. I just played to see 'India win' on the board at the end. That was my only motivation, not to play for my hundred or for my fifty," she said.

For someone, who helped me. Radha (Yadav) has always been there for me. I'm so blessed to have friends I can call family that I didn't have to go through it alone and it's okay to ask for help. Everyone stood by me and believed in me. When I was dropped from the team, that really hit me. I wanted to go out there and just do things that my team won. I kept reminding myself that. This knock is very special for me and I am saving one more for the final."

ACCOLADES

Fabulous victory! Well done @JemiRodrigues and @ImHarmanpreet for leading from the front. Shree Charani and @Deepti_Sharma06, you kept the game alive with the ball. Keep the tricolour flying high.
SACHIN TENDULKAR

A terrific win for India against Australia @ JemiRodrigues was simply outstanding - 127* filled with elegance, patience and power. A knock that defines maturity and confidence.
ANIL KUMBLE

To beat Australia chasing a world record 339 in a world cup semifinal, doesn't get better than this. Incredible performance by our girls, one that will be remembered for years to come. Wishing the very best for the Finals on Sunday.
VVS LAXMAN

We were 'un-Australian' on the field: Healy

G KRISHNAN
NAVI MUMBAI

Australia captain Alyssa Healy called her team's effort on the field "un-Australian" following the five-wicket defeat in the semifinal at the hands of India on Thursday.

Healy herself dropped two chances that came off India's centurion Jemimah Rodrigues.

"Ultimately, we just weren't sharp enough probably in all three facets to give ourselves the opportunity to win the semifinal," she said. "I think we did pretty well to hang in there. We created a lot of opportunities and let ourselves down in that regard. It feels a little bit un-Australian to be not as clinical as what we normally are. Knowing how well we've played this World Cup feels a little bit disappointing."

Alyssa Healy

The wicket-keeper-batter acknowledged the Rodrigues-Harmanpreet Kaur 167-run third-wicket partnership that took the game away from Australia.

"They're two high quality cricketers and have been for a long period of time for India, and we knew that it's a good wicket, good batting conditions. We probably just allowed them into the game a little bit by not sticking to our strengths with the ball for long enough," she said.

Seasoned Australian batter Ellyse Perry, who scored 77 and was involved in a 155-run second-wicket partnership with Phoebe Litchfield on Thursday, took the defeat in her stride. Perry said: "We totally accept the loss because India played an amazing game. Players from both teams performed exceptionally under pressure. We are on the losing side, that's okay. That's sport. From India's perspective, they played a phenomenal match and did some really crucial things under pressure at a home World Cup.

Australia land first blow

MELBOURNE, PTI

Josh Hazlewood clinically dismantled a famed Indian top-order with a probing spell to kill the contest as Australia cantered to a four-wicket victory in the second T20 International here on Friday.

In front of a 82,438 strong crowd, India suffered one of its most embarrassing defeats with as many as nine batters failing to reach double digits in a total of 125 in 18.4 overs.

Only Abhishek Sharma, in the form of his life, stood tall amid ruins with a combative 37-ball-68. With Harshit Rana (35 off 33 balls) he added 56 to take the total past 100-run mark after pacer Hazlewood (3/13) left them reeling at 49 for 5.

Hazlewood bowled an incredible 15 dot balls in his four-over spell to break the backbone of Indian batting and killed the contest within 20 minutes of start.

Australia's Josh Hazlewood (right) picked up 3/13 in four overs to help Australia take a 1-0 lead over India at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Friday. AFP

In reply, skipper Mitchell Marsh blasted his way to 46 off 26 balls with hosts completing the chase in only 13.2 overs losing six wickets. Most batters fell primarily due to attempting audacious shots.

The only silver lining apart from Abhishek's innings was Varun Chakravarthy's spell (2/23 in 4 overs) and Jasprit Bumrah's (2/26 in 4 overs) pinpoint yorker to dismiss Matthew Short.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA

Gill c Marsh b H'wood	5
Abhishek lbw b Ellis	68
Samson lbw b Ellis	2
Suryakumar c Inglis b H'wood	1
Tilak c Inglis b H'wood	0
Axar run out	7
Harshit c David b Bartlett	35
Dube c Inglis b Bartlett	4
Kuldeep c Abbott) b Stoinis	0
Varun (not out)	0
Bumrah run out	0
EXTRAS (B-1, W-2)	3
TOTAL (all out, 18.4 overs)	**125**

Fall of wickets: 1-20, 2-23, 3-32, 4-32, 5-49, 6-105, 7-109, 8-110, 9-125.

Bowling: Hazlewood 4-0-13-3, Bartlett 4-0-39-2, Ellis 3.4-0-21-2, Stoinis 4-0-24-1, Owen 1-0-13-0, Kuhnemann 2-0-14-0.

AUSTRALIA

Marsh c Abhishek b Kuldeep	46
Head c Tilak b Varun	28
Josh Inglis lbw b Kuldeep	20
David c & b Varun	1
Owen c Samson b Bumrah	14
Stoinis (not out)	6
Short b Bumrah	0
Bartlett (not out)	0
EXTRAS (B-4, LB-1, NB-1, W-5)	11
TOTAL (for 6 wkts, 13.2 overs)	**126**

Fall of wickets: 1-51, 2-87, 3-90, 4-112, 5-124, 6-124

Bowling: Bumrah 4-0-26-2, Harshit 2-0-27-0, Varun 4-0-23-2, Kuldeep 3.2-0-45-2.

PoM: Josh Hazlewood. **Result:** Aus won by 4 wkts. **5-match series:** Aus lead 1-0. **Next match:** Hobart (Nov 2).

Most of the Indian batters found it tough to hit through the line due to extra bounce and the lengths that Australian pacers, especially Hazlewood hit during his spell which he finished in one go.

While technique of a few batters lay exposed, the Indian team management wouldn't take the results to heart as the T20 World Cup will be played in Indian conditions where most of the deliveries will not rise above knee roll.

There will be minimal seam movement and wickets offering a bit of grip will help Varun Chakravarthy, Kuldeep Yadav and Axar Patel way more.

But with three matches left in the series, Indian batters could take a leaf out of Abhishek's book.

Unnati stuns Lin to enter semis; Lakshya, Ayush knocked out

SAARBRUCKEN (GERMANY), PTI: Indian shuttlers had mixed fortunes at the Hylo Open on Friday with rising star Unnati Hooda progressing to the semifinals but both Lakshya Sen and Ayush Shetty saw their campaigns end with defeat in men's singles quarterfinals.

Unnati, ranked 34 in the world, humbled fourth seed Hsiang Ti Lin of Chinese Taipei, placed 10 places above the Indian, 22-20, 21-13 in 47 minutes.

The Indian thus avenged her Malaysia Masters defeat to the same rival in May this year. She will now be up against either top-seed Indonesian Putri Kusuma Wardani or Azerbaijan's Keisha Fatimah Azzahra, who are clashing in the other quarterfinal.

In the men's singles, up against French fourth seed Alex Lanier, Sen bounced back after losing the opening game but eventually fell 17-21, 21-14, 15-21 after battling hard for one hour and 14 minutes.

Unnati Hooda

It was Sen's second defeat against Lanier this season, having lost to the French player in Denmark Open quarterfinals earlier this month.

On the contrary, Shetty surged ahead in his quarterfinal against Finland's Kalle Koljonen but could not sustain the momentum to lose 21-19, 12-21, 20-22.

MANUEL FREDERICK 1947-2025

Frederick, a daredevil keeper who inflicted fear in opponents

SIDNEY KIRAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

Manuel Frederick, the daredevil goalkeeper of his time who won the 1972 Munich Olympics bronze medal for the biggest prize of his career, passed away at a city hospital here on Friday following a battle with prostate cancer. He was 78.

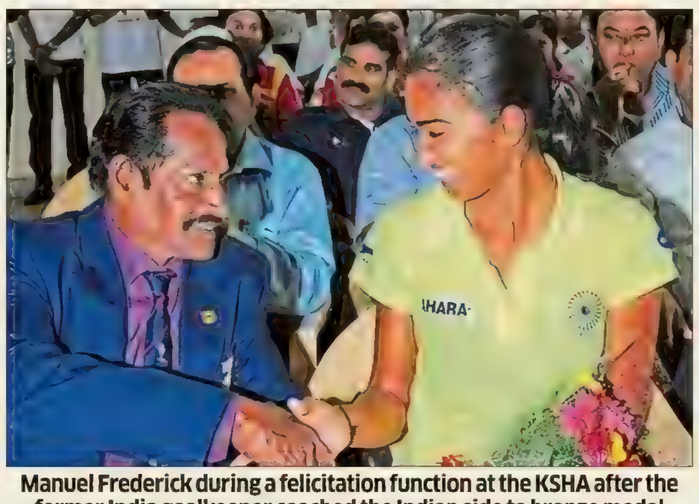
Born on October 20, 1947 in Kannur district in Kerala, the former Army Service Corps (Jalandhar) and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (Bengaluru) custodian made a name for himself in the late 1960s and 70s with his all-out aggressive style of goalkeeping that injected fear in the hearts of rival players.

Despite having limited protective equipment then — Frederick played most of his career with just pads and gloves with no helmet — Kerala's first-ever Olympic medal winner didn't bat an eyelid at throwing himself in the way of a goal-bound ball.

He apparently even indulged in intimidation tactics during penalty corners and penalty strokes, and loved charging at the opponents — something that was an antithesis to the Indian style of free-flowing hockey and overall friendly demeanour. He had a penchant for playing mind games also that would often rattle the opposition.

"Manuel was cut from a different cloth of goalkeeping," former India captain BP Govinda, who played alongside Frederick at the Munich Games and several other tournaments, told of his former team-mate and friend who was conferred the Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2019.

"He was extremely aggressive, quite rare for Indian keepers of those days, but that propelled him to fame. Sometimes even we would get scared of him the way he charged at the ball or rival players. Coaches would tell him to tone down his rough style but Frederick never once backed away.



Manuel Frederick during a felicitation function at the KSHA after the former India goalkeeper coached the Indian side to bronze medal in the 2013 Junior World Cup in Germany. DH ARCHIVES

"He knew aggression was his natural game, and if he curbed it, that would hamper his keeping. So he stuck to it till the very end. Sometimes he didn't wear chest and abdomen guards! He was a lion-hearted keeper and one of his kind."

Born in a state, which is known for its football culture, Frederick, like many from modest backgrounds in those days, joined the Army to give wings to his sporting dreams. It took off nicely through ASC Jalandhar where his daring performances attracted eyeballs. He represented the Army as well as the Services and soon graduated to the national team, making a mark with his uniqueness.

Following his stint with the Army, Frederick joined HAL in the mid-70s when he shifted base to Bengaluru. After retiring from HAL, he was actively involved in nurturing the next generation through his role as a coach in DYES for nearly three decades from the mid-1980s. He was a constant presence during league games at the hockey stadium and was widely respected by different generations.

"For kids of this age, I would say his style was like Emiliano Martinez of the Argentina football team," reminisced former India captain Jude Felix. "He was always in the face of the opponents. He loved trash-talking and going at them. It was unheard of in Indian hockey which loved playing in a gentlemanly manner in those days. It was not just international games but he played with the same intensity in league games."

India hockey great MP Ganesh felt the sport could have given a lot more to the straight-talking Frederick. "Awards and recognition came quite late for Frederick. He was a man of principles and never sought any help from the government or federations. He would always tell me, 'MP, we should never beg for an award. It should always come to us.' I feel some of the players he coached could have pushed his case."

Frederick, whose funeral will be held on Sunday, may not be highly celebrated like some of the erstwhile players, but he sure left an indelible mark of his own.

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A theatrical journey through cities, memory and belonging

Why do we long for places we have never seen? Why do we carry echoes of stories we barely understand?

'Meanwhile Elsewhere' is a visually stunning and emotionally rich new performance conceptualised, written and directed by Yadavan Chandran and choreographed by Mallika Sarabhai. Developed at the Darpana Academy of Performing Arts, the play opened at the 45th Vikram Sarabhai International Arts Festival. This Indo-Italian production marks the 40th anniversary of Italo Calvino's passing, celebrating his enduring influence on literature and art. Inspired by Calvino's Invisible Cities, the show reimagines the legendary dialogue between Marco Polo and Kublai Khan - transforming it into a reflection on the modern world, the pace of urban life and what it means to feel at home.

A living city on stage

Meanwhile Elsewhere turns the stage into a breathing, changing city. A translucent screen separates the audience from the performers, creating a world that feels both close and distant - like a memory half-remembered. Words, music and movement build each scene - sometimes bright and bustling, sometimes quiet and introspective.

At its heart is the song 'There Comes a Time', written by Chandran, composed by Edoardo Catemario and sung by Penelope Deen. The song opens the show, setting a tone of reflection and longing that runs throughout the piece.

Performed in five languages - English, Italian, Hindi, Gujarati and Khasi - the performance blends theatre, dance and live music to tell stories about people and the places they build, remember, and leave behind.

"This play began as a whisper - a longing to explore the invisible threads that bind us to places, memories and dreams," says director Yadavan Chandran, "It was my way of asking what if the spaces we imagine are as real as the ones we inhabit? It was an invitation to step into those spaces, letting boundaries blur between reality and fantasy,"

For acclaimed artiste Mallika Sarabhai, the production is a deeply personal project. In a world that's constantly shifting, Meanwhile Elsewhere asks us to pause and look at what connects us - the invisible threads between people, places and time.

"The spirit of Italo Calvino breathes throughout Nel frattempo altrove - in its imagination, lightness and deep reflection on the human experience. Inspired by Calvino's masterpiece Le città invisibili, the performance transforms his poetic vision into a living dialogue between

cultures, languages and artistic forms. It reminds us that imagination knows no borders, and that art remains the most powerful way to build bridges", says Giandomenico Milano, Consul General of Italy in Bengaluru.

"The opportunity to bring Meanwhile Elsewhere to Bengaluru is very exciting for us at the PCPA and Prestige Group. What a wonderful way to celebrate a literary legend, bring two cultures closer together and present the latest work of one of India's foremost doyennes of the dance world", says Dipti Rao, DGM-Auditorium Operations, Prestige Centre for Performing Arts.

About the directors

Yadavan Chandran is a filmmaker, writer and theatre director known for his strong visual style and cross-disciplinary storytelling. His work often explores questions of identity, belonging and transformation. At Darpana, he has developed a distinctive approach that combines cinematic design, live performance and poetic text - a style that finds full expression in Meanwhile Elsewhere.

Mallika Sarabhai is one of India's most respected artists - a dancer, actor and activist whose career has spanned more than four decades. As the Artistic Director of Darpana Academy, she has used the arts as a tool for change, addressing issues of equality, justice and the environment through performance.

Meanwhile Elsewhere comes to Bengaluru, presented by the Prestige Centre for Performing Arts on Saturday, November 8, 2025. The Prestige Centre for Performing Arts (PCPA) is a visionary cultural venture by the Prestige Group, one of India's leading real estate developers. The performance is supported by the Consulate General of Italy, Bengaluru.

Tickets are available on BookMyShow. For Enquiries call 99001 51383.

DH DECCAN HERALD
Wknd.

WINTER BYTES

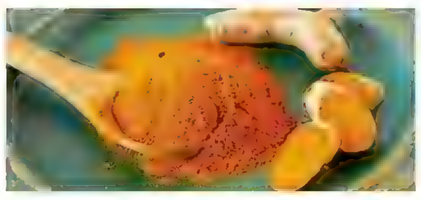
Warm milk with a pinch of organic turmeric is a healthy nightcap for the winter months

WINTER WISE

WEEKEND LIFESTYLE FEATURE

CHANGE TO WINTER DIET

Through the winter, increase consumption of soups and stews. Go for fluids such as rasam with meals. Include spices such as turmeric, ginger and pepper that boost immunity. Choose foods that help you fight infections common in winter by boosting your immune system.



SEASONAL VEGGIES AND FRUITS

Any season's vegetables and fruits should always be a part of your daily diet. In the winter months, go for vegetables such as carrot, spinach, sweet potato and beetroot. This is a good time for all citrus fruits as they boost immunity. Apple and pear are some other fruits that are seasonal now.

Healthy in WINTER

The cold days bring their share of the sniffles. You can fight winter infections with a nutritious diet. Here's what you need:

Vitamin C

It is crucial in winter as it helps in preventing you from catching a cold. Vitamin C boosts immunity.

Include citrus fruits, kiwi, berries and broccoli in your daily diet.

Vitamin D

The overcast skies and reduced sunlight in the winter can mean lesser absorption of Vitamin D. This affects your immunity and can cause mood swings.

Get the Vitamin D you need from fatty fish, egg yolk, mushroom and fortified milk.

Zinc

It also helps boost your immune system. Zinc helps your body fight infections.

You can get zinc through nuts, seeds, legumes and seafood.

SPOONFUL OF SUNSHINE
Just right for the cold days

Deepa Natarajan Lobo gets a couple of recipes from executive chefs you can try at home on winter weekends

With the temperatures dipping and the cold season slowly settling in, it's time to nourish the body and soul with superfoods that bring warmth, comfort and memories of childhood. From the earthy sweetness of roasted sweet potatoes to the crunchy delight of peanut–jaggery chikkis, these nostalgic Indian winter superfoods aren't just delicious - they're Nature's very own immunity boosters. Moreover, they can even be transformed into indulgent creations. Two popular executive chefs reimagine two warming Indian ingredients – the sorghum millet and gooseberry (amla), and transform them into gourmet delights.

Amla Muthiya (Steamed Amla Dumplings)

By executive chef **Riwash Sharma**

PIC COURTESY: FIREWATER NEO BAR & KITCHEN

There is something special about cooking with what the season naturally offers. Amla is packed with Vitamin C and antioxidants, while whole wheat and besan offer fibre and protein. Steaming preserves nutrients and keeps the dish light. Use fresh amla puree for the best flavour and a pinch of hing for depth. You can also pair it with different chutneys or raitas to keep it interesting.

What you need:

- Amla puree (fresh or bottled) and besan (gram flour) – half cup each

Whole wheat flour – one cup

- Green chillies – two (finely chopped)
- Ginger – one-inch piece, grated
- Coriander powder and sesame seeds – one teaspoon each
- Turmeric powder – half teaspoon
- Salt to taste and water as needed
- Cilantro-lime chutney for serving

Preparation - Amla Muthiya:

Combine amla puree, whole wheat flour, besan, green chilies, ginger, coriander powder, turmeric powder and salt, and mix well. Add water gradually and knead into a soft, pliable dough. Divide into small portions and shape into cylindrical or oval dumplings. Arrange the dumplings in a steamer basket, leaving space between them. Steam for 15–20 minutes or until cooked through. **Serve hot with cilantro-lime chutney.**

Preparation - Cilantro-lime Chutney:

What you need:

- Fresh cilantro – one cup
- Fresh mint leaves – half cup
- Two green chilies
- Lime juice – one teaspoon
- Salt to taste and water as needed

Preparation:

Blend all ingredients into a smooth chutney.

Rose-infused **Jowar Pudding** with Hazelnut-Ginger Crumble

By executive chef **Altamsh Patel**

Jowar is a major part of any meal in Jalgaon – a small village in Maharashtra. This is an attempt to elevate this humble dessert by pairing it with rose and fresh berries.

What you need:

- For the pudding:
- Jowar – one cup
- Almond milk – two cups
- Water – three-fourths cup
- Vanilla pod – one (or one teaspoon of vanilla extract)
- Maple syrup – two teaspoons
- Dried rose petals – one teaspoon
- Himalayan salt – quarter teaspoon
- Fresh raspberries and blueberries – two tablespoons each

For the crumble:

- Hazelnuts – three-fourths cup
- Fresh ginger (finely grated) and dried rose petals – one teaspoon each

Preparation:

- Soak the jowar in water for one hour. Drain and rinse well. In a heavy-bottomed pan, combine the jowar, almond milk, water, vanilla, maple syrup, rose petals and salt. Cover and simmer on low heat, stirring frequently, for about one hour, or until creamy and the grains are soft. Allow it to cool slightly.
- For the crumble, place hazelnuts, grated ginger and rose petals in a food processor until coarsely combined.
- To serve, spoon the pudding into bowls, top with the hazelnut–ginger crumble, and finish with fresh raspberries and blueberries.

PIC COURTESY: HILTON MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Iron

It is crucial in winter as it helps in preventing you from catching a cold. Vitamin C boosts immunity.

Include citrus fruits, kiwi, berries and broccoli in your daily diet

Protein

Intake of protein is crucial in winter as it strengthens muscles and supports immunity. If you are working-out through winter, focus on ensuring adequate protein in your diet.

Egg, fish, tofu, beans, lentils and dairy products give you protein.

Fluids

While you may feel less thirsty in the winter, adequate hydration is still a necessity. It is important for digestion and your skin health.

Ideal winter fluids include warm herbal teas and soups.

LEISURE

Beetle Bailey

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

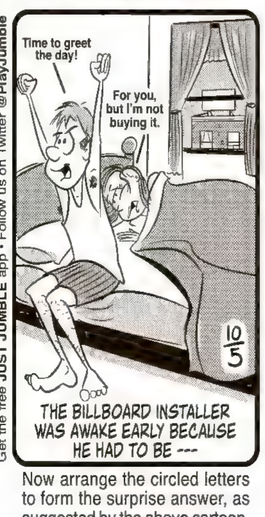
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

AGEEL

ONUDP

DINADC

PMSCUA



Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

_____ _____ " _____ ' _____ "

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Answers

EAGLE POUND CANDID CAMPUS

The billboard installer was awake early because he had to be — UP AND "AD 'EM"

HITORI-120

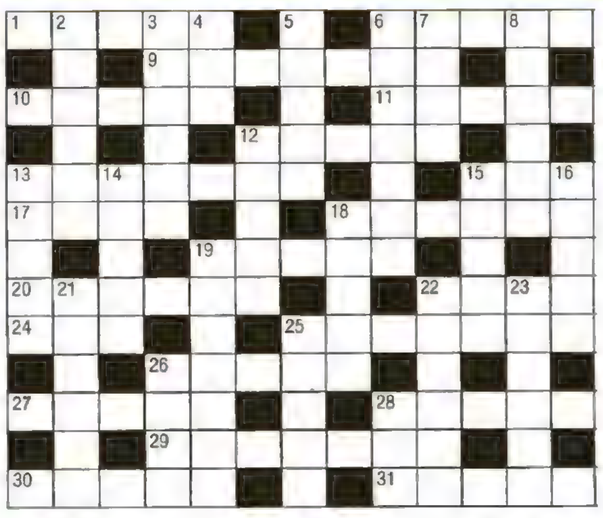
5	1	7	1	4	1	2	8
8	1	5	4	6	2	7	1
1	7	1	5	5	3	1	2
1	6	4	1	3	7	8	5
1	4	8	6	7	1	5	2
3	8	6	3	8	4	1	1
4	8	1	7	6	2	3	6
2	1	3	8	5	1	4	6

SOLUTION for HITORI-120

■	4	■	5	8	3	■	2
6	3	2	■	7	1	8	4
1	■	4	8	■	6	■	3
■	5	■	7	6	8	4	■
5	7	8	3	■	4	6	1
2	1	3	■	5	■	7	■
■	7	■	6	4	5	1	8
8	2	1	4	■	7	■	5

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 121



EASY

ACROSS

1 Navigation aid (5)
6 Drift (5)
9 Japanese warrior (7)
10 Cheerful (5)
11 Bloodsucker (5)
12 Searches (5)
13 Loosen (7)
15 Moist (3)
17 Canvas shelter (4)
18 Commands (6)
19 Brings up (5)
20 Higher (6)
22 Mark (4)
24 Before (3)
25 Garments (7)
26 Travelling entertainments (5)
27 Written slander (5)
28 Start (5)
29 Branch of mathematics (7)
30 Defeats (5)
31 Abundant (5)

DOWN

2 Cultivatable (6)
3 View (6)
4 Beam (3)
5 Spice (5)
6 Hesitates (7)
7 Untruths (4)
8 Sportsman (6)
12 Cut (5)
13 Condition (5)
14 Corner (5)
15 Servant girl (5)
16 Russian rulers (5)
18 Spoken exams (5)
19 Remembers (7)
21 Reach a destination (6)
22 Brook (6)
23 Antenna (6)
25 Wept (5)
26 Achievement (4)
28 Undergarment (3)

CRYPTIC

ACROSS

1 Gardening informant? (5)
6 Agitatedly paces the room (5)
9 Not much money for a half-hour with a horsy character (7)
10 Where there's not a Sassenach in sight? (5)
11 A vegetable container (5)
12 King who restyled his hair a lot (5)
13 An arrest made at Silverstone, say? (3,4)
15 Quietly do wrong, in a certain case (3)
17 God's is at the church (4)
18 City I named anew (6)
19 Joined someone to get measured (5)
20 Persevered with the latest edition (6)
22 Beefy speculator? (4)
24 Still the old-fashioned typed heading (3)
25 On which to lie, being modest about something plucky! (7)
26 Soldier boy's forename? (5)
27 Pretend to be a cool-headed character (5)
28 Cilla's strange bloomer (5)
29 Ship a girl to town (7)
30 Beat Alf silly at the film centre! (5)
31 Certain material is sham to him (5)

DOWN

2 Curtis turned countryman (6)
3 English dialect some Scots use? (6)
4 Abolished tax on TV, say (3)
5 A long piece the band hasn't quite finished? (5)
6 Rags due for recycling in a tasteful coat (7)
7 Wild romp at the Albert Hall? (4)
8 Black stuff that's good for the car? (6)
12 What the optimist did when he'd got out of work (5)
13 Chummy, pig-headed mate (5)
14 Not quite the true way to have faith? (5)
15 Model for a mural? (3-2)
16 Well, we're out during the day, so hang around (5)
18 Fluid, methinks not writing fluid (5)
19 Incorrectly claimed to be curative (7)
21 It fulfils a signal need (6)
22 He made room at the top (6)
23 A glove mistaken for a food additive! (6)
25 Something to sit down and play (5)
26 Cinema version of "Soldier, Soldier" (4)
28 Cut and run, almost (3)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 121

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 1, Grass 6, Space 9, Cent-a-ur 10, A-Scot 11, Gourd 12, Hira-M 13, Pit stop 15, P-od 17, (God's)Acre 18, Medina 19, Melted 20, Last-ed. 22, Bull 24, Ve-t 25, C-harp-oy 26, Gi-Les 27, Mimi-c 28, Liar 29, Gal-Leon 30, Fla-il 31, Peter(-shaw).
DOWN: 2, Rustic 3, Sco-use 4, SET 5, Strip(-e) 6, Sugared 7, Prom 8, Car-bon 12, H-Op-e'd 13, p-ally 14, Tu-St. 15, Pin-up 16, Da-li-y 18, Meth-s 19, Medical 21, Aerial 22, Braine 23, Lovage 25, Cello 26, Gi-Gi 28, Lop(-e)-ared 26, Feat 28, Bra .

EASY
ACROSS: 1, Radar 6, Float 9, Samurai 10, Happy 11, Leech 12, Sifts 13, Slacken 15, Wet 17, Tent 18, Orders 19, Rears 20, Taller 22, Scar 24, Ere 25, Clothes 26, Fairs 27, Libel 28, Begin 29, Alge bra 30, Beats 31, Ample.
DOWN: 2, Arable 3, Aspect 4, Ray 5, Cumin 6, Falters 7, Lies 8, Archer 12, Sever 13, State 14, Angle 15, Wench 16, Tsars 18, Oralis 19, Recalls 21, Arrive 22, Stream 23, Aerial 25, Cried

DH Wknd. FASHION

WEEKEND LIFESTYLE FEATURE

Wash your hands with soap in running water frequently to keep winter infections away

WINTER WISE

REFRESH WITH LEMONGRASS

Bright and citrusy, lemongrass tea refreshes without caffeine. It aids digestion, reduces bloating and strengthens immunity. It is perfect after festive indulgence. Brew with a hint of ginger or mint for an invigorating, spa-like drink that instantly uplifts your mood on foggy afternoons.

TURMERIC TEA

A golden elixir for winter immunity, turmeric tea reduces inflammation and supports joints health. Mix turmeric with ginger, black pepper and a dash of ghee or coconut oil for better absorption. It's soothing, earthy and ideal to keep your system warm and resilient all season.

Winter **Warmer**

Go herbal with chai

As the chill sets in, swap your regular cup for herbal blends that comfort, heal and revive. From spicy brews that boost immunity to floral infusions that calm the mind, these teas are the perfect winter companions, helping you soothe your throat and hydrate your skin at the same time.

Ginger comfort

A winter essential, ginger tea boosts immunity and aids digestion. Its spicy warmth soothes sore throats and eases congestion instantly. Add a dash of lemon and honey for an extra antioxidant kick. Perfect for chilly mornings or after a heavy meal when you need comfort in a cup.

REFRESHING TULASI

Tulasi (basil) tea helps strengthen the immune system and relieves cold-related fatigue. Its mildly peppery flavour clears nasal passages and refreshes the senses. Enjoy it plain or with honey to balance stress levels while keeping seasonal sniffles at bay.

AROMATIC CINNAMON

Cinnamon's natural sweetness and spice make this tea both aromatic and healing. It improves circulation, helps control blood sugar level and adds a festive scent to your home. You can pair it with apple slices or clove for a cozy, dessert-like drink that feels like winter in a cup.

Sparkle, shine and style

Your party playbook for accessories brings in clever styling with jewellery, **Shilpi Madan** elaborates

Glow **On**

Look stunning with a few simple cues in place when you reach out for your bijouterie. Here are tips to curate your jewellery when you dress up for special year-end occasions.

Solo showstopper
Make one aspect the focal point of your appearance. If you go heavy on the trinkets, go easy on the outfit to balance it out visually. A showstopper neckpiece, a glam hairstyle with matha patti, maang tika, flowers in the hair combine to elevate your look sizably.

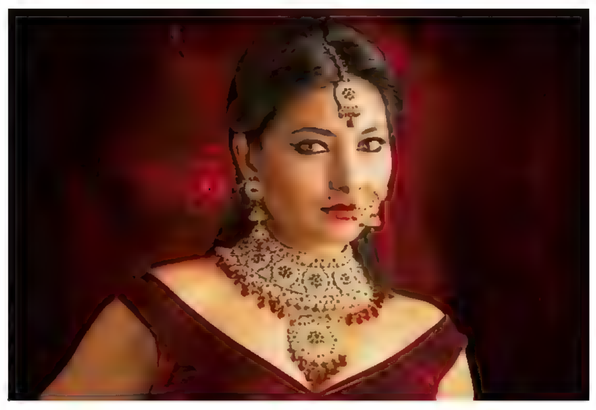
Tress tackle
If you are wearing a backless blouse, then go for a high sweep bun. Take the weight of your locks off the jewellery to avoid tangles and better focus on the jewellery. For the matha phool and maang tika look, you will need to wear your hair slick and neat to make the jewellery shine forth.

High and low
For some, a long neckpiece works. For those gifted with a slender neck, chokers work beautifully. Conversely, if you have a double chin, a choker draws the eye to it.

Avoid teaming dangling earrings with a choker. It looks overwhelming visually. Similarly, do not layer up on necklaces if your outfit is heavy.

Shine on
Accentuate your best features using clever jewellery styling. For fabulous collarbones, skip a neckpiece and simply go with stunning earrings, in chandelier format. If you are long-limbed with delicate fingers, slip on pretty bangles to draw attention. For a wide forehead, make use of a maang tika.

Prop up
Mix metals in stackable bracelets and cocktail rings depending upon your outfit. A stylish ivory piece elevates itself when paired with layered gold jewellery. Either go antique or rose complexioned, but choose a gold tone that flatters your ensemble.



Winter glam

This season, make-up is all about glowing skin, bold eyes and just the right hint of sparkle. The focus is on enhancing natural beauty while adding a twist that feels glamorous, yet wearable.

Start with radiant, dewy skin by prepping with a hydrating primer and lightweight, illuminating foundation. Cream blush in warm peach or a rosy tone gives a natural look, perfect for daytimes and evening parties. A touch of highlighter on the cheekbones, brow bone and bridge of the nose adds a soft glow.

For the eyes, jewel-toned shadows in emerald, ruby, or sapphire are trending this season. Add dimension by blending a metallic shade on the centre of the lids and finishing with winged liner or softly smudged kohl. For a bolder statement, try a sweep of glitter across the eyelids or inner corners.

Deep berry or brick red lips complete the look. Matte lipsticks are timeless, but a glossy finish feels fresh and glam.

Seal the make-up with a setting spray to ensure it lasts through late-night parties.

Sunday Snan: Your weekly ritual for well-being

This hour-long ritual is far more than a grooming routine - it's a reset for the body and mind, writes **Prasad Bidapa**

Hydro **Therapy**

In the fast-paced modern life, finding moments for true rest and rejuvenation often feels like a luxury. Yet, carving out time for a deliberate, nurturing self-care ritual is essential for both mental and physical health. Enter 'The Sunday Snan' - a weekly ritual designed not just to cleanse, but to deeply nourish your body, starting with your skin.

The ritual begins with the power of oil. A generous massage with warm coconut, sesame or almond oil prepares the body for transformation. This isn't merely a pre-bath indulgence but a potent act of restoration. When massaged into the scalp, the oil stimulates blood circulation, strengthens hair follicles and enhances natural shine. On the body, this ancient Ayurvedic practice - known as Abhyanga - relaxes the muscles, tones the skin and prepares it for a deeper cleanse.

After the massage, step into a hot shower. Resist the urge to wash off the oil immediately, instead, let the warmth and steam open your pores, allowing the oil's nutrients to penetrate deeply. This soaking phase is the heart of hydration, ensuring that your skin remains supple, soft and nourished from within.

Once the oil has worked its magic, it's time to exfoliate. Using a rice powder scrub - a time-honoured Asian beauty secret - helps gently slough away dead skin cells and impurities. Finely ground rice powder, with its soft yet effective texture, reveals fresh, luminous skin while balancing the moisture from the oil massage. This step is both restorative and symbolic - a shedding of the old, making way for renewal.

The Sunday Snan concludes with a final rinse, washing away the last traces of scrub and fatigue. As the water flows, it carries away the week's accumulated stress, leaving you with skin that feels rejuvenated and a mind that feels light and calm.

This hour-long ritual is far more than a grooming routine - it's a reset for the body and mind. By dedicating time to this mindful practice each week, you nurture your skin, soothe your senses and create space for reflection and restoration. The Sunday Snan is your personal sanctuary - a weekly ritual of renewal that ensures you begin every week feeling grounded, polished and beautifully refreshed.

DH DECCAN HERALD
Wknd. VARIETY

Warm fluids such as soups are good in winter as they give you both nutrition and the hydration you need

WINTER WISE

WEEKEND LIFESTYLE FEATURE

CHICKPEA AND SPINACH

Made with the nutritious chickpea and spinach, it also has tomato, carrot, onion, garlic, cumin, cinnamon, paprika, vegetable broth and lemon juice. It is packed with the nutrients you need in the winter. Chickpea is rich in protein – ideal for this season.

CREAMY CAULIFLOWER

This is a good winter soup made with cauliflower, onion, garlic, potato, thyme, vegetable stock, olive oil, milk (or almond milk) and nutmeg. The winter is the season for cauliflower. This veggie is rich in Vitamin C, fibre and water. It gives you both immunity boost and hydration.

Winter **Sip**

Warm with soup

The winter days are creeping in. This is the time for some warm beverages. And what better choice than a soup? Both nutritious and warming, you have a wide variety to choose from. Ideally, pick one with seasonal vegetables. It's the nutrition boost you need now.

VEGGIE AND SPICY

This soup is made with onion, garlic, carrot, vegetable broth, olive oil, thyme, nutmeg and coconut milk. It's highly nutritious. Garlic contains Vitamin C that is a need of the hour in this season. It's a great soup before dinner on cold nights.

CREAMY MUSHROOM BARLEY

This soup is made with mixed mushrooms, pearl barley, onion, celery, carrot, garlic, thyme, soy sauce, vegetable broth, cream or cashew cream. A tasty soup, it is a nutrition boost in the winter season. This is an any-time soup and is a great warmer on cold days.

Spiced Lentil and Tomato

A very popular soup, it is made with red lentils, crushed tomatoes, onion, garlic, cumin, coriander, turmeric, chilli flakes and lemon juice. The herb and spice content in the soup makes it great for the winter months. This can be a spicy soup for those who relish the taste. It goes well in the evenings.

CARROT AND GINGER

Made with carrot, fresh ginger, onion, garlic, vegetable stock, orange juice, coconut milk, coriander and black pepper, this soup has medicinal properties. It is a great way to boost your immune system. This soup is a good way to begin your day with. Ideal nutrition boost for those who are in crowds daily.

Your immunity is built daily with mindful choices

Balanced diet rich in nutrition, quality sleep and exercise, along with mindful lifestyle choices, go into building your immunity, says clinical dietitian **Jahnavi Bhograj**

Fighting **Fit**

Everyone has had that one season where a bothersome cough or runny nose overstayed its welcome. Whether it's sneezing through a family gathering or feeling low energy during a busy workday, minor infections have a knack for showing up uninvited especially when your body is tired or run down.

While there's no miracle food or overnight fix, building immunity is possible and it's rooted in quiet, daily practices. From the meals you prepare to the way you breathe and rest, every small step helps your body defend, repair and recover.

Here's a gentle, four step framework to help you stay well and energised through the changing seasons:

Step 1: Nourish from within

Nutrition fuels your immune system. Your immune system depends on nutrients to function well - not just during illness but every day. Among them, Vitamin C stands out for its antioxidant power. It protects cells from damage, supports the production of infection-fighting compounds and helps maintain your skin, the body's first barrier.

But no single vitamin can do it all. What your immune system truly thrives on is variety - whole grains, pulses, fruits, vegetables, nuts, seeds and traditional fermented foods like curd and buttermilk. These not only provide vitamins and minerals, but also support your gut, a vital centre of immune activity.

Simple tips:

- Add colour to your plate with citrus, papaya, bell peppers and greens.
- Choose seasonal, home-cooked meals with fibre-rich staples like millets, dals and vegetables.
- Avoid excessive sugar and ultra-processed snacks which disturb gut balance.

A balanced, nourishing diet is your body's daily insurance. It may not prevent every infection, but it will help you recover faster, and with fewer complications.

Step 2: Move gently, breathe deeply

Exercise strengthens your defence system. Moderate physical activity like walking, yoga or light jogging boosts circulation and helps immune cells travel efficiently through the body. It lowers stress hormones, reduces inflammation and supports the production of white blood cells, your inner defence army.

But if you're already feeling unwell, rest is more important than exertion. Overdoing it can temporarily weaken your immune response.

Don't forget your breath. Breathing exercises or pranayama offer double the benefit - they calm your nervous system and support lung health.

Try:

- Anulom Vilom (alternate nostril breathing). It clears nasal passages and promotes balance.
- Kapalabhati (skull-shining breath). It stimulates the sinuses and relieves congestion.

Even a few minutes of focused breathing each day can boost oxygenation, reduce anxiety and support recovery.

Step 3: Rest with intention

Sleep is your body's natural repair mode. Sleep isn't a luxury, it's essential. During restful sleep with regular bed and wake times, your immune system resets and heals. While many focus on how many hours they're getting, the quality of sleep matters just as much.

Step 4: Nourishment over 'superfoods'

Choose real meals over miracle claims. There's no magic food that can 'boost immunity' overnight. But a balanced, nourishing diet plays a vital role. Nutrients like Vitamin C, Vitamin D, zinc, selenium, iron and protein are critical for immune cell repair and communication. These are best-absorbed through wholesome meals, not megadose pills.

In situations like chronic illness, lack of time or access to a balanced meal, a basic multi-vitamin under medical guidance may help. But supplements are only a back-up, they can't replace the richness of a real meal.

Feeling strong and healthy isn't about chasing cures, it's about consistency in care. Immune strength builds slowly, with everyday choices of nourishment, rest and mindfulness.

BTA celebrates 125th anniversary with shopping bonanza

The Bangalore Trades Association (BTA) is celebrating its 125th year with shopping festivals and discount offers for customers. The trade body, established in 1899, has 65 members across the central business district of Bengaluru. Among the city's first retailers' associations, The Bangalore Trades Association has planned shopping and cultural events to commemorate its milestone year.

"This year, we have planned shopping events to bring retailers and customers together through celebrations that foster goodwill and community bonding", said Sreesh R Babu, president, BTA and proprietor Prakruthi Ads. "We will spearhead beautification drives and initiatives that enrich the city's heritage. We are also on a membership drive to bring more retailers in and create a more varied experience for customers", said Vijaya Shekar Ravi, vice president BTA and proprietor Deepam Silks.

Retailers can call 96116 60222 or 98867 54946 to enrol.

From Hither **and Thither**

Gunasheela Hospitals holds free women's health, infertility camp today

This Kannada Rajyotsava, Gunasheela Surgical and Maternity Hospital invites women and couples to take charge of their well-being through a free women's health and infertility camp, happening across its centres in Basavanagudi, Koramangala and Ballari today from 8.30 am to 3 pm.

For over five decades, Gunasheela Surgical and Maternity Hospital has been a trusted name in women's healthcare, offering hope and medical excellence to couples trying to conceive and women facing reproductive health challenges. This special camp extends that legacy by providing free and discounted consultations, tests and screenings - making quality healthcare more accessible to all.

The camp offers consultations for couples trying to conceive, guidance for women with repeated pregnancy loss, evaluation of menstrual and hormonal health issues, free examination, basic investigations, ultrasound scan, semen analysis at 50 per cent discount and diagnostic tests at special discounted rates.

To book an appointment call 080 46462600, 99000 85752.

Filter coffee with a twist

This is the season for hot coffee anytime, right? And for those who love it the filter way, here's a twist to try at home.

You can give the classic south Indian filter coffee a winter twist by infusing it with cardamom or a pinch of nutmeg. Its strong, aromatic flavour makes it a post-meal favourite during the cold days.

Serve in traditional brass tumblers to delight your guests looking for an authentic experience.

'We take the classroom into the sports field...'

Training in sports and formal education in equal measure is the formula of The Sports School to build 'champions of life' **Srinivas T R,** Co-founder, explains what the essence of this education format is, in this chat with **B S Manu Rao.**

Meeting **Point**

What in essence is your formula of sports with formal education about?

Sports and education are considered to be different and most people don't believe they can coexist. At The Sports School, we believe both are equally important for the overall development of a child and two sides of the same coin - learning. Therefore, at this school, we have integrated formal education with sports training. Our mission is 'to use sports as medium of education'. We don't relegate sports to an hour of PT and some games on the field, we believe here that sports adds to education.

For example, what happens when a child cannot achieve the grades expected of him or her? Sports helps cope with failure that is a part of life. Sports builds confidence. It teaches students teamwork, perseverance and empathy. Formal education, along with these qualities, establishes a new thought and leadership in our children who will adapt better to deal with the rapidly-changing world.

At The Sports School we make learning fun. We take the classroom into the sports field. We teach them as they play. This works well for those pursuing a conventional career and also for those looking for a career in sports.

What does sports do for a student?

Most sportspersons are natural leaders because of the journey they go through and the discipline they learn to follow. Children who have been trained in a sport will have an edge over others. Many children don't play outdoors these days – they are hooked to gadgets indoors. The focus on outdoors in The Sports School creates fit bodies in fit minds – what they need to succeed in life later.

How do you plan training for your students?

We classify our students based on where they stand – beginners are trained for around two hours a day while those at the intermediate level go through three hours. They progress to an advanced level, usually around 14 years of age. Here the focus is completely on sports and the classroom follows them wherever they go. While in the initial years the sports is fun along with formal education, in the advanced level the focus is on training as we spot and hone prospective talent here.

Nutrition is a crucial factor...

We have a sports nutritionist who prepares diets along with the coaches and teachers who help in curating meals that ensure adequate protein and all the nourishment they need. The students get around six meals spread out between breakfast and dinner – all aimed at giving them strength and fitness.

What criteria do you evaluate to admit students?

We take into account the mindset of the parents and child. The parents must be inclined towards this format of education. We look for latent talent we can develop.

If we find potential in sport, we will go all out to ensure the right platform is created for the child to compete at the international level. We have an accomplished alumni in all the sports we offer. We have 12 students playing at the club football level in the country and one of our student-athlete represented India in the U19 team recently.

Srinivas T R

Your advice for parents and students...

Parents should allow the child to grow on its own and enjoy pursuing his/her passion. You should not live your dream through your children. Students, on the other hand, need to strike a balance between the fun element of sports and training to play at the professional level. At the same time, academics should never be neglected.

What qualities does your sports training inculcate?

Sports teaches thinking out of the box and that is crucial to succeed in any career. On the field, if your opponent is winning, you have to analyse, use your intelligence and innovate. All these qualities are important in all fields in life. This is how we build successful people.

There's a lot of pressure in competitive sports...

At The Sports School, we create a conducive environment to help children handle it. Pressure should be applied based on each child's ability. We have child psychologists along with coaches and class teachers monitoring it. We want them to enjoy this journey rather than brood thinking 'if I lose this match the world will end'. We respect those who lose as much as those who win.

What happens to students who don't make the cut?

We equip our students in three aspects - knowledge of game, endurance and use of sports acumen in different aspects of life. Career of any sportsperson on the field is limited. Our education stretches it to prospect for what else can be done using the knowledge of the sport.

In any field, very few make it to the pinnacle. Our education confers the ability to find a footing in a related space of the sport – may be commentary, management etc. They also get the formal education here for a career outside sports.

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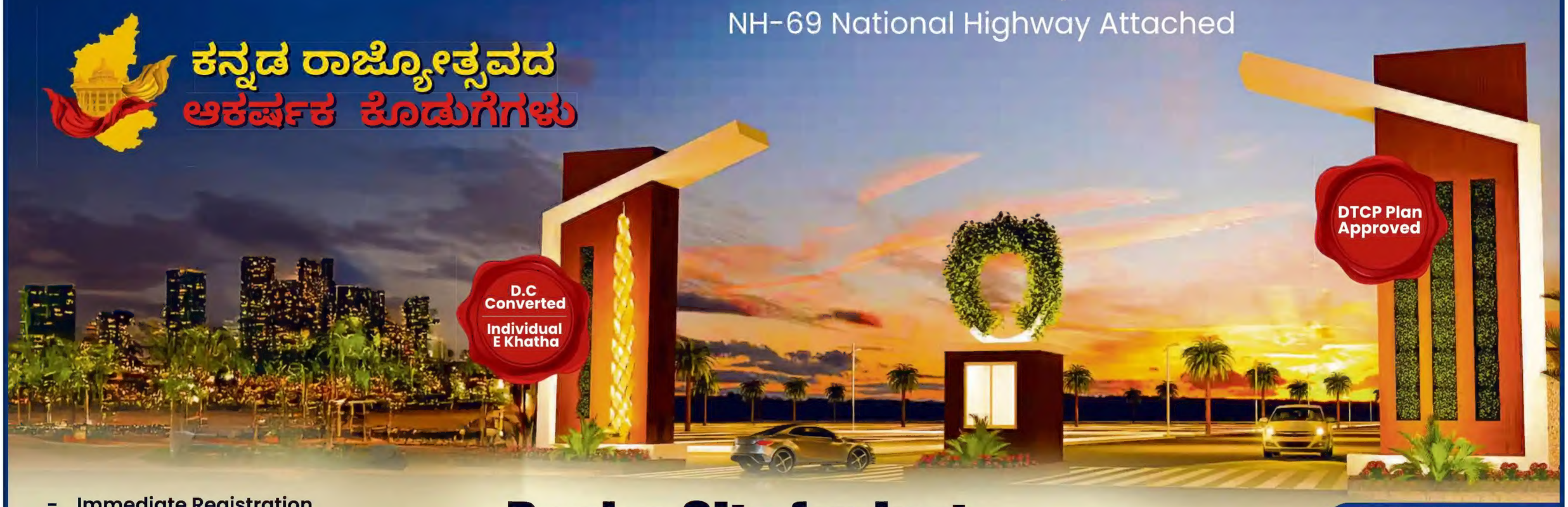

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Mysore

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Vishweshwariah Layout

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Yelahanka

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South

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Sites

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Kanakapura Road

WANTED SITE 30X40 Any Facing Anjanapura, BCMC, Narayan Nagar, BCCHS, Direct Registration, Agents Excuse. Call 9663454878

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Banashankari

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Name(s) of Shareholder(s)
B.R. VISHWANATH
No.5, 4th Cross, RK Gardens RMV 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560054. Mob: 9845027558
Dated: 01.11.2025, Bangalore

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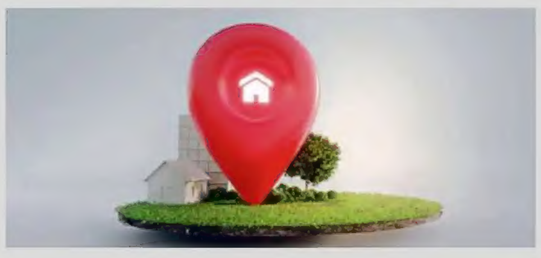

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